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# THE TIMES



INTERNATIONAL EDITION

SATURDAY AUGUST 22 1992

50p



## MAN OF HONOUR

Leoluca Orlando, former mayor of Palermo, returns to become a Mafia target

Saturday Review Page 4



## STREETS OF CHARM

Forget spring — Paris in summer is discovering the city's mélange of cultures

Weekend Times Page 8



## DISTURBING THE PEACE

Clive Aslet reveals why August has become the most aurally offensive month

Weekend Times Page 1



## ASSAULTING THE SENSES

Alina Reyes' writing hovers somewhere between erotica and pornography

Saturday Review Page 10

## Times poll on press intrusion

# Royal family loses support over privacy

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

PUBLIC sympathy for the royal family over press intrusion into its privacy is diminishing according to a Mori poll for *The Times*. More than twice as many people as two years ago believe it is justifiable for the press to invade royal privacy in pursuit of a story.

Public opinion is almost evenly divided on whether newspapers should have published intimate pictures of the Duchess of York and her friend John Bryan. When Mori asked a sample of more than 1,000 adults if newspapers were right or wrong to

publish the photographs, 53 per cent of those questioned said they were wrong and 42 per cent thought they were right.

There was much more public sympathy for two politicians who had suffered recently from publicity about their private lives than there was for the Duchess of York. The poll found that 67 per cent thought that newspapers had been wrong to publish the story about Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, who was briefly an unmarried mother. Only 26 per cent thought the story should have been published. There was a 54-39 verdict against publication of the story about

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, which gave details of his five-year-old affair with a secretary. However, while 44 per cent of respondents thought that newspapers should not have published details of the affair between David Mellor, the national heritage minister, with an actress, 49 per cent thought they were right to have done so.

The poll shows strong public support for the right of newspapers to breach privacy to expose criminal conduct such as fraud or a sex crime: 39 per cent of those questioned said it was right to report, while 8 per cent disagreed. Asked if newspapers were right to breach people's privacy "to expose personal hypocrisy, such as a politician or member of the royal family who proclaims support for family life while having an affair", 55 per cent thought they were justified in doing so and only 38 per cent thought they were not.

Mori asked for which groups of people it would be justifiable for the press to invade their privacy in support of a story. Politicians came top at 40 per cent, followed by magistrates and judges on 39 per cent, police officers on 36 per cent and the royal family on 33 per cent. While most categories are up about ten percentage points compared with when Mori last asked the question for the *New of the World* two years ago, the percentage of respondents who are ready to sanction an invasion of royal privacy has more than doubled from 16 per cent. In 1990 the figure for politicians stood at 32 per cent.

When people were asked specifically about press intrusion into the lives of the royal family, 65 per cent said there was too much and 7 per cent too little. The figures for politicians were 41 per cent (too much), 16 (too little), with 39 per cent of respondents saying that it was about right.

The verdict on press intrusion into the lives of ordinary members of the public who became involved in major news stories was 51 per cent (too much), 6 (too little), 36 (right amount).

The public regards newspapers in general and the tabloid press in particular as too intrusive. More than half (51 per cent) did not agree when asked if the press in general behaves responsibly in Britain, while 41 per cent did agree.

Two years ago 48 per cent of respondents felt the press did not behave responsibly.

Continued on page 2, col 4

Poll chart, page 2  
Diary, page 10



Fighting back: Mr Bush raising Republican morale with attacks on Bill Clinton

## Do you think the newspapers were right or wrong to publish ...

	Right	Wrong
The story about the government minister David Mellor's secret affair with an actress?	49	44
The photographs taken of the Duchess of York on holiday in France with John Bryan?	42	53
The story about Paddy Ashdown's affair five years ago with his then secretary?	38	54
The story about health secretary Virginia Bottomley having been an unmarried mother?	28	67

## Pictures of duchess draw one complaint

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE Press Complaints Commission said yesterday that it had received just one complaint from the public about the publication of photographs of the Duchess of York in the compromising company of John Bryan, her self-styled financial adviser.

Although the photographs attracted an unusual public expression of outrage from the Queen, as a gross invasion of privacy, a commission spokesman talked of "a deadly silence", which is extraordinary.

Press speculation about the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales had prompted nearly 400 telephone calls and 70 letters the recent scandal involving David Mellor, the national heritage secretary, had drawn 20 letters and 53 calls.

Looking even more unregal than on Thursday, the Duchess of York again adorned the tabloid press yesterday in a further and yet more revealing set of holiday photographs. For the second day running, the *Daily Mirror* devoted seven pages to the pictures, taken by an Italian freelance photographer, while the duchess and Mr Bryan were on holiday last week in St Tropez. The rival *Sun*,

rapidly catching up on the story, devoted its front page to a colour shot of the bare-breasted duchess bending before Mr Bryan.

The *Mirror* forebore to publish such an explicit view of the Queen's daughter-in-law. Roger Eastoe, the paper's deputy managing director, said it had the pictures of the bare-breasted duchess but chose not to use them.

"We are a family newspaper first and foremost," he said. Both papers had printed thousands of extra copies.

Buckingham Palace remained silent on the issue yesterday, except to steer callers in the direction of the Princess of Wales, who was attempting to carry on business as usual by visiting a hospice in Hull. During the day a rumour gathered that the Duchess of York would leave Britain by helicopter, bound for exile abroad, but so far as could be established she remained with other members of the royal family, including her husband, in residence at the Scottish holiday retreat where she has been staying with her two children since returning from St Tropez. Mr Bryan remained at his Chelsea apartment yesterday.

Continued on page 2, col 4

Tax pledge, page 8

## Polls show Bush is closing gap

## Milosevic agrees to attend London talks

By MICHAEL BINNION AND JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

THREE polls yesterday showed that President Bush has secured the big "bounce" he needed from a Republican convention that had mercifully denigrated Bill Clinton, his wife, and the Democratic Congress (Martin Fletcher writes from Houston).

Mr Bush was closing fast on Mr Clinton, narrowing the gap between five and 12 points, compared with between 15 and 25 before the convention. A *Wall Street Journal* analysis suggested the two candidates were dead even in the electoral college, the balance being held by a dozen states accounting for 119 of the 538 votes.

Mr Bush was angrily denounced by the Democrats for promising across-the-board tax cuts if re-elected.

Continued on page 2, col 4

Shelling intensifies, page 7

## Thousands flee armed fanatics roaming Kabul

Kabul residents who survived the struggle against Soviet intervention are finding the interminable war unbearable. Chris Thomas reports from the stricken Afghan capital

Kabul is a dying city. Pulverised by rockets and artillery, practically waterless and completely without electricity, short of affordable food and run by armed men, it is barely fit for human habitation.

There is a different government on every street corner. Here it is Uzbek militia, there is Tajik Mujahidin. Somewhere else Shia Muslims or the long-persecuted Hazaras flex their muscles. The pattern of control changes constantly, turning a simple journey into a frightening gamble.

Guluddin Hekmatyar, the fanatical Pashtun leader who has been bombing the Afghan capital for two weeks, claims that he is hitting only military and government installations. This is nonsense: no residential area has escaped his random bombardment. The death toll in a fortnight is well over 1,000.

Tens of thousands of people who stuck it out in Kabul during the 12 years of the last war have decided that they cannot stomach the new one and have fled. Leaving the capital is hazardous because gangs of unemployed gunmen are looking to loot. The city is surrounded by fanatics of many hues.

We spent a night in the basement of a derelict building on the city outskirts after thugs with machineguns made further progress impossible. A travelling companion was slapped in the face and had a rifle shoved into his belly by a teenager who did not like being answered back. An elderly Mujahidin fighter snatched the gun away, doubtless saving a life.

Hekmatyar: "aiming at military targets only"

new war, coming four months after the end of the last one, are essentially Pashtun versus non-Pashtun. It has been thus for centuries.

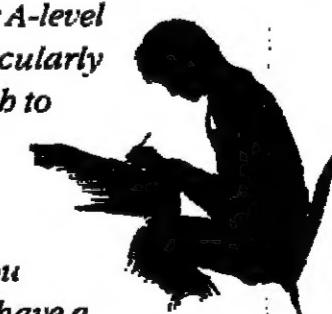
International aid agencies might have to quit unless the anarchy in Kabul is contained. The United Nations has evacuated all but four of its expatriate staff by sending them by road to the Uzbek-controlled city of Mazar-i-Sharif, north of Kabul, and from there to Uzbekistan. Continued on page 14, col 6

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## How apemen kept humanity in the mainstream

BY NICK NUTTALL  
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

SWIMMING instructors provide evidence that mankind evolved from an aquatic ape who moved to the seas five million years ago, a British surgeon said yesterday.

Unlike chimpanzees and other primates, humans can grow a tiny bone in their ear canals which may have helped the ape to protect sensitive hearing membranes from pressure and water damage. The protrusion, an exostosis, is normally present in less than 6 per cent of the population, but is found in up to 60 per cent of people who swim more than three times a week and in all swimming instructors, studies have found.

Peter Rhys-Evans, a consultant ear, nose and throat surgeon at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, whose findings are published in the *Journal of*

*Laryngology and Otology*, said yesterday that the bony growth may show that one or more groups of apes left the falling forests and savannah grasslands of Africa to exploit the rich food supply of the coasts and estuaries.

Handiness, the fitness of newborn babies and their ability to swim but not to walk are all throwbacks to an aquatic past, it is claimed. Weeping is another feature that humans do not share with other primates. Living in the seas meant man's ancestor needed to lose more salt, the theory argues.

Mr Rhys-Evans, who will deliver his findings at a meeting organised by the McCarrison Society at next week's annual conference of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, in Southampton, said that the claim was supported by humans having bigger sinuses than other primates. They may have been used as buoyancy tanks.

Unlike other non-aquatic mammals,

humans have a larynx which is not in contact with the back of the nasal cavity, meaning that they can breathe through their mouths as well as their noses.

"Breathing through the mouth would have been a tremendous advantage for a land mammal that is diving," Mr Rhys-Evans said. The spin-off of this larynx arrangement is speech, one of mankind's most superior skills.

Michael Crawford, chairman of the McCarrison Society and director of the Institute of Brain Chemistry and Human Nutrition in London, said yesterday that new studies of diet, fats and their role in brain size also supported the aquatic ape theory. A diet of fish and shellfish allowed the ape's brain to grow with its body size, whereas the food eaten by land mammals was not rich enough in certain fats. A chimpanzee's brain represents 0.4 per cent of its body size, compared with 2 per cent in humans.



The predecessor of the swimming instructor?

## Police divided over action by worried householders on new estates

# Private firms recruited for night crime patrols

BY PAUL WILKINSON

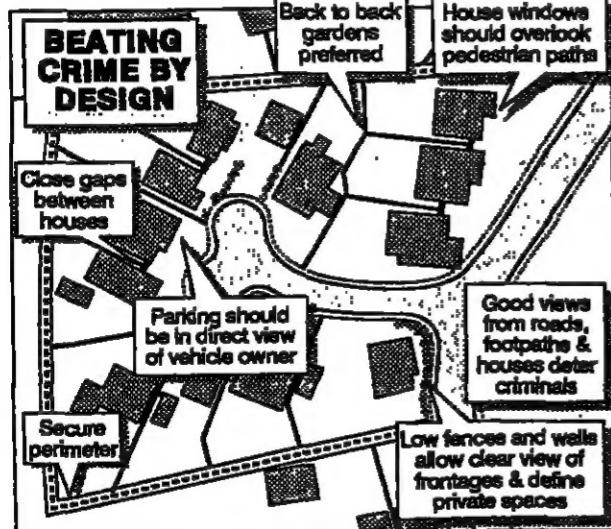
**FEARS** of rising crime have led home owners in two parts of northern England to recruit private night patrols. Police reaction is mixed.

In Sunderland, residents on two new housing developments are being asked to pay £2.50 a week to employ all-night foot patrols. The Northumbria force said: "Anything that puts an extra pair of eyes and ears out on the streets to combat crime can only be a good thing." But Greater Manchester police have questioned a similar scheme on three estates in Wigan, saying that it heightens fear of crime in an area where offences have fallen in the past year.

The Wigan scheme, run by a newly-formed company called Property Watch, offers "wardens" at 75p a week who will cover times of the day when residents are not available to operate their neighbourhood watch schemes. The first patrol will begin on Monday. One resident, Dilys Huyton, said: "After being broken into last year, I think we need something like this. We need it for peace of mind."

The creator of the scheme, Colin Baxter, a draughtsman from Thornton, Lancashire, discourages the word "security" and says that his staff are forbidden from involvement in any incident. "They have a Vodaphone to contact the police and that is all they are allowed to do. There will be no citizen's arrests. Our success will be determined not by me or the police, but by the public."

Leading article page 11



Keeping watch: Norman Jackson, co-ordinator of Property Watch, on patrol in Goose Green, Wigan

## Designers build to beat the burglar

Police and developers are working together to make new homes safe as houses, Rachel Kelly reports

ing security measures into the design of estates and homes was now common practice among builders and developers.

Under the initiative, police carry out an analysis of crime patterns in the area before offering developers' and builders' advice on the measures they should take to make homes and estates more secure. A developer building an estate in a high-risk area would be encouraged to build a 1.8 metre high closely boarded fence around the perimeter while in a low-risk district, police would suggest a hedge with a chain link fence.

The layout of an estate is also an important feature in efforts to curb crime. It should have well lit and overlooked footpaths and landscaping designed to avoid hiding places. The police encourage developers to plant low prickly bushes to deter criminals and suggest surveillance of trees which do not have low boughs.

Developers are also urged to build estates with entrances which have pillars and a change of road surface on entry from the public highway. Homes should also be built in clusters or cul de sacs. Sgt Hardy said: "These measures are meant to have a psychological effect on a criminal. They are intended to make a person feel it is private property and to make them stop and think. Hopefully a person will not feel comfortable and this deters the criminal."

It costs an average £300 per house to add in extra security features. These include the use of robust doors, letter boxes a minimum of 16in from door locks, security lighting to front and rear automatically switched by time switch, intruder alarms, and the layout of the estate.

In spite of the sophistication of incorporating all such features into estates and houses, police say that even simple measures such as good lighting for footpaths and car parks and sensible locks can deter burglars.

All but five of the 43 police forces in England and Wales have adopted the "Secured by Design" initiative. Police in Scotland will take part from November. In May the scheme was extended to include commercial buildings.

Though there is nothing in law to enforce such security initiatives, most of the country's top 20 builders now endorse the scheme because they see it as one way of marketing their new homes in a sluggish property market.

## Major has a housing worry

BY NICHOLAS WOOD  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major would seem to have enough on his plate when he returns from his Spanish holiday tomorrow. Bosnia, Iraq, the French referendum on Maastricht and the threat to sterling will all demand his urgent attention. But first he has to find somewhere to live.

Workmen have descended on 10 Downing Street and are busy tearing the building apart in an attempt to strengthen it against terrorist attack. Windows have been ripped out and Mr Major's top-floor flat is in a mess.

Mr Major was due to spend the latter part of the summer at home in Great Stailey while conducting a busy programme of regional tours and overseas visits. But the late decision to convene next week's conference in the capital on the former Yugoslavia, which will be chaired by the prime minister, has forced some hasty rethinking.

The prime minister will now take over a spare ministerial flat in Whitehall. Once the conference is over he should be able to revert to his original programme, returning to Downing Street after the Tory party conference in October.

After the IRA's mortar bomb attack on the cabinet room in the winter of last year, Mr Major is certain to regard the reinforcement of his London home, and the temporary inconvenience as money well spent.

### CORRECTIONS

An article in Life & Times (August 18) incorrectly stated that Terry Farrell's new building at Vauxhall Cross London, would be occupied by MI5: in fact it is for MI6.

Yesterday's table of 60 state schools' A-level results wrongly attributed scores for Tunbridge Wells School, in Kent, to Tonbridge Grammar School.

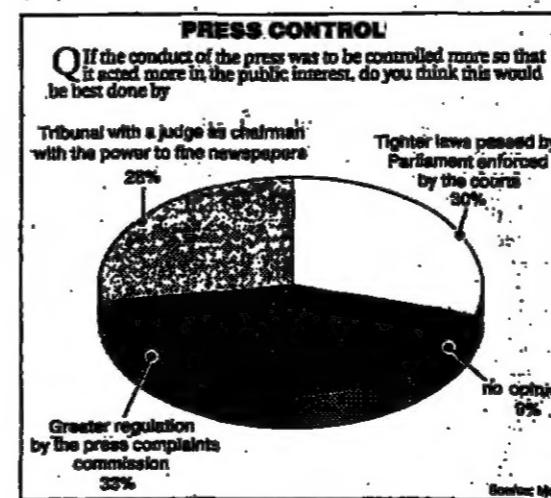
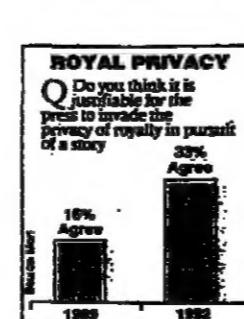
## The Duchess of York photographs

## Royal family loses support

Continued from page 1  
while 46 per cent thought it did.

When the poll focused on broadsheet newspapers such as *The Times* and *The Guardian*, 67 per cent thought newspapers act responsibly and 11 per cent did not. For tabloid newspapers such as *The Sun* and *The Daily Mirror*, however, only 24 per cent of respondents said they behave responsibly and 67 per cent disagreed. Local and regional newspapers received the best agreement rating, 79 per cent.

The government is showing no enthusiasm for bringing forward a privacy law, despite the enquiry being conducted by Sir David Calcutt, QC, and the poll produces no



strong evidence of a desire for greater control on the press. Forty per cent of those questioned said there was about the right amount of control over newspapers generally. However, 43 per cent thought there was too little and 9 per cent too much. There has been virtually no change in public opinion on that question over the past two years. For the tabloid newspapers, 53 per cent thought there was too little control.

Asked which of three options they would like to see if the conduct of the press was

to be more tightly controlled,

30 per cent opted for tighter laws passed by Parliament and enforced by the courts.

Thirty-three per cent backed greater voluntary regulation by the Press Complaints Commission. And about a quarter of those questioned, 26 per cent, supported a tribunal with a judge as chairman and the power to fine newspapers, which the tribunal finds guilty.

Much of the survey's findings were replicated by the 1990 poll, which found that 33 per cent of people thought there was too little control over the press, 43 per cent thought there was too much and 24 per cent thought there was just the right amount.

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# Hurd warns Iraqis not to use jailed man as political pawn

BY NICHOLAS WATT

IRAQ was warned yesterday not to use the Briton jailed in Baghdad as a political pawn. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said that imprisoning Britons would not force the government to change its policy.

Mr Hurd described the seven-year sentence imposed on Paul Ride, 33, from Walthamstow, east London, as unjust and said that the government would maintain the pressure to free him. However, President Saddam Hussein had to comply with what the United Nations had laid down, he told BBC Radio Oxfordshire. "He has to allow his weapons to be inspected and destroyed and he can't destroy, or rocket or shell, his own people."

Mr Ride, catering manager for Taylor International Catering in Kuwait, was jailed on Thursday after being found guilty of illegally entering Iraq. Diplomats

believe that he accidentally drove over the border.

As soon as the sentence was announced, the Foreign Office lodged a protest with Ibrahim Zuhair, the Iraqi chargé d'affaires in London. Last night, a Foreign Office spokesman said: "We have tossed the ball in his court and we are now waiting for a response. We will wait until next week, when we will step up the pressure again."

The Russian embassy in Baghdad, which represents British interests, has applied to visit Mr Ride in prison. The Russians have been extremely helpful but the Iraqi authorities are obviously under no obligation to grant them access," the Foreign Office said.

Mr Ride's mother, Muriel, said that Saddam was playing a game of cat and mouse. "He has probably handed out a sentence of seven years so that he can turn around after three months and free my son so that everyone will think he is a good guy."

She was worried to hear that her son was having to rely on other prisoners for food. "I've been told that the prison doesn't provide any food. I've asked the Red Cross if I can make a donation to help to feed Paul and they're looking into that for me," she said. The family will be sending a message to Mr Ride via the Red Cross.

Some members of the family had taken the news of the prison sentence badly, she said. "My husband is hardly getting any sleep at night. His mother, who is 80, is devastated and we are very con-

Air warning, page 8

## Thousands gather for Krishna festival

By Louise HIDALGO

MORE than 15,000 Hindu worshippers arrived at the village of Lechimley Heath in Hertfordshire last night to celebrate the birth of Krishna in what local residents hope will be one of the last festivals of its kind at the mock-Tudor temple of Bhaktivedanta Manor.

Hindu leaders have said that the government "will have to send in tanks to stop us worshipping at this sacred place" after they lost the final round in the British courts earlier this year to maintain the temple, Britain's largest Hindu shrine, as a site for public worship and religious festivals.

"Many Hindus are deeply hurt by this action," Akhandadhas, president of the temple, said. "The young in particular are very disturbed and there are calls for civil disobedience. We pray daily justice will prevail."

The authorities, however, were expecting no trouble last night as worshippers dressed in white kurta, dhoti and gold-spangled saris arrived from around the country, bearing gifts of food and incense for the infant Krishna. Among them was the singer Boy George, who had come to play musical offerings dedicated to Lord Krishna.

Police said that the festival was always a most peaceful affair although it did tend to create traffic jams.

Local residents and Conservative-controlled Hertsmere Borough Council have fought long and hard to have the festival, one of the most important in the Hindu calendar, stopped. They say that the thousands of devotees are a disruption to traffic and rural life.

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

#### Exclusive A-levels survey

The waiting and the worrying are over. The A-level results have arrived, and in homes all over the country there is celebration or gloom.

Tomorrow, The Sunday Times publishes the definitive list of the schools with the best A-level performances.

The top school will be named, and profiled – and data will be provided on more than 200 other schools around the country. The success of grammar schools, comprehensives and the new 'opt-outs' will be examined. It is essential reading for every parent.

*Special A-levels survey, don't miss tomorrow's Sunday Times*

## Prison city where torture is common

Lin Jenkins talks to those who survived the pressures that await Paul Ride as he starts his sentence in an Iraqi prison

TORTURE, both physical and psychological, is an enduring feature of the regime at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad, where other Britons before Paul Ride have been interned and survived to tell the tale.

Douglas Brand, who experienced the full force of President Saddam Hussein's treatment of foreign prisoners when he was accused of spying after being caught trying to flee Iraq after the invasion of Kuwait, made some chilling observations yesterday. Not only would the conditions inside be appalling, but there was every likelihood that Mr Ride would have already suffered at the hands of the Iraqi secret police, the Mukhabarat, after arrest.

The interrogation techniques were learnt at the hands of Ceausescu's secret police in Romania," said Mr Brand, who had a distinguished career in the Royal Marines, winning the Military Cross in Aden in 1964. He commanded a unit of the Special Boat Squadron before becoming an expert in underwater explosives and security. "At the best, you can consider them as pretty crude and they are not fêted by many thoughts of the Geneva Convention or legal process."

He knows only too well the pervading culture in the jail, as does Ian Richter, the last Briton to be released when finally freed after five and a half years in November 1991.

After allegedly visiting a military site, Daphne Parish was jailed in 1989, with the Observer journalist Farzad Bazoft. He was later executed. She said the jail was as big as a city. "He will be able to move around. He can probably even go jogging and it is very important that he keeps fit. You have to keep mentally and physically fit, that is very important. If you do that then you can cope with all the other things that get thrown at you."

## 'Bubbles' bows out to a Sinatra song

By BILL FROST

IN DEATH as in life Viscountess Rothermere, the renowned society hostess, insisted on doing things her way yesterday.

During her funeral yesterday the coffin of Lady Rothermere, widely known as 'Bubbles', the wife of the third Viscount Rothermere, proprietor of the Daily Mail, was carried from the church to the strains of the Frank Sinatra standard New York.

His voice filled the nineteenth century church in High Hursleywood, East Sussex, as members of the family filed out to the graveyard where she was buried. The viscount led the procession of mourners, which included family friends – Nigel Dempster, Sir David English and Lord Grade.

"Bubbles", a famous party-giver and former actress, died of a heart attack at the family villa in the south of France last week. She was

63. During yesterday's funeral service her children spoke warmly of their mother, who was born Patricia Matthews. Her son, Jonathan,



Placard protest: Suzi Hodson, left, and Beth Parry, student nurses at the Middlesex Hospital, who were among 2,000 health workers who took to the streets in London yes-

terday to oppose cuts in the region's hospitals. The march to the health department began at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital at Euston, which is to close at

the end of the month, where patients left their beds in support. The day of activity was organised by Nupe, the capital's largest health union, and sister unions

Cohse and Nafo. Union leaders said that more than 1,000 redundancies were planned within the next few months and blamed health service reforms.

## Computer leads draughts champion

BY RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

CHINOOK, the Canadian computer program, has taken the lead in the Silicon Graphics world draughts championship at the Park Lane hotel, London. Over-

night the score had been one win each with 11 draws but in game 14 Chinook, playing with the white pieces, inflicted a second defeat on the world champion, Marion Tinsley, of Florida.

After 34 moves Dr

Chinook, a piece down and recognising the hopelessness of his position, resigned the game. The result confounds the predictions of all the draughts grandmasters who claimed before the match that Dr Tinsley would win overwhelmingly and probably not lose a single game. Instead, the champion is now trailing with only one win against the computer's two.

The games have been of a high quality, conducted in a depth of analysis that confounds even the top draughts experts. Several draughts masters and grandmasters were confidently predicting a drawn outcome just as Dr Tinsley was in the act of resigning the game. Even after Dr Tinsley had resigned, the other human masters were almost at a loss to explain his decision.

Dr Tinsley, 65, loses on average one game every ten years. Con McCarrick, the Irish champion, said: "Dr Tinsley is playing against himself. Chinook has the strength of Tinsley 30 years ago."

David Levy, match organiser, said: "Chinook is now odds-on favourite to win. Dr Tinsley is becoming increasingly tired."

The two games lost by Dr Tinsley are the only games ever lost in an official title match by any human world champion against a machine in any mind sport.

## Fake priest jailed for life over sex attack

A BOGUS priest whose bizarre series of crimes ended with a sex attack on a mother of four was jailed for life yesterday.

Lord McCluskey told John Cronin, 21, at the High Court in Edinburgh that he was imposing the sentence for the protection of the public. "In my judgment you are highly dangerous," he said. The life sentence did not mean that Cronin would never be released, the judge said; it was flexible and his case would be kept under review.

Cronin, formerly of Tranent, Lothian, posed as a priest in May and celebrated mass at St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh, where he stole a purse and cash. He started a big police hunt when he told officers that he had spotted the escaped IRA terrorist Nicanor Quinivin in Edinburgh, and he tried to prevent the course of justice by pretending that he was Father Sean Mulligan of co. Cork to avoid prosecution.

Cronin used the disguise to enter the woman's home. He hit her repeatedly with a poker, forced her to commit indecent acts and robbed her. Lord McCluskey said the attack gave "clear warning of the nature of the risk to which the public are exposed when you are at liberty".

Cronin had admitted the offences at an earlier hearing, when the case was adjourned for a further psychiatric report. Neil Murray, QC, for Cronin, said yesterday that it would not be appropriate for the judge to take the unusual step of imposing a life sentence for a crime other than murder. He accepted that the assault was "monstrous" and merited a long jail sentence.

Lord McCluskey said that psychiatric reports showed that from the age of three Cronin's behaviour had been "outrageous, inexplicable and uncontrollable".

Doctors were unable to recommend treatment.

## Customs warns Christmas bargain-hunters of £32 limit

THE lure of cheap Christmas presents bought early from recession-hit America, where the weakened dollar is now approaching two to the pound, could prove to be no more than fool's gold for those tempted by its apparent glitter.

Lord McCluskey told John Cronin, 21, at the High Court in Edinburgh that he was imposing the sentence for the protection of the public. "In my judgment you are highly dangerous," he said. The life sentence did not mean that Cronin would never be released, the judge said; it was flexible and his case would be kept under review.

They had been alarmed by a British Airways promotion urging people to fly to America and take advantage of the falling dollar to save "up to 58 per cent" on the cost of a wide range of goods.

This is no more than British Airways trying to get people to buy a ticket on their "airline," a customs official said. "If anyone brings goods to the value of more than £32 from the United States into Britain they must first pay the duty, which can be as much as 14 per cent, plus another 17½ per cent VAT. If they try to smuggle them through they will generally be charged double."

British Airways is launching a sales drive to persuade people to buy return tickets to the eastern United States for

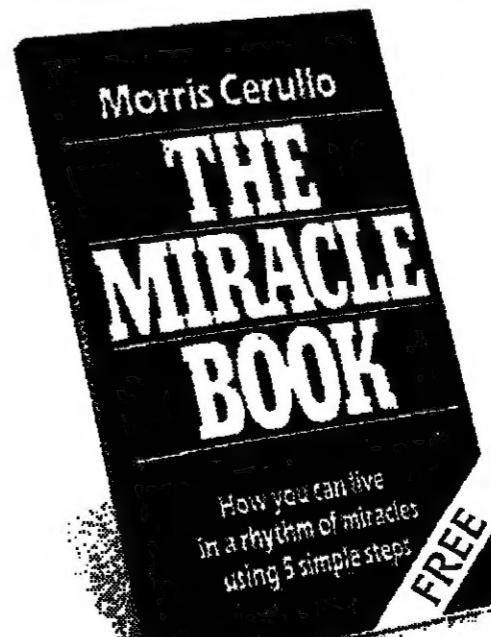
goods, even in the handful of shops not offering high summer sales. "There are many more bargains to be obtained in the USA and not just in New York," said Mr Callery, anxious to persuade as many potential passengers as possible to part with there £229 for flights to New York, Newark, Washington and Boston from the beginning of October until next March year and the £309 it would cost to fly to and from the west coast.

American Airlines, which is in a desperate head to head battle for custom with British Airways, was quick to point out that they have been offering such fares since April.

The falling dollar has attracted a growing number of British shoppers, many anxious to stock up on cut price goods for Christmas. Thomson, the country's largest tour operator, said that a package to New York at £359 including return flights and three nights in a three star hotel in Manhattan is now the top seller in the short breaks catalogue.

However, the sums seem rather different when the Customs and Excise people have had their slice. "Why not go to Europe instead," a helpful customs man said. "You can spend £420 from any EC country without having to pay VAT and that limit will soon disappear completely".

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Lord Rothermere and his daughter Camilla, 63, during yesterday's funeral service her children spoke warmly of their mother, who was born Patricia Matthews. Her son, Jon-

athan, said: "My mother was a wonderful woman. She attracted people to her with her infectious personality. Underneath her public personality was a warm depth and a tremendous generosity of heart. My mother was a deeply sensitive, religious and spiritual person as well as the colourful figure we shall all miss in our lives."

Canon Bill Peters, who conducted the marriages of the couple's two daughters, said of the viscountess: "Patricia was one of God's firework in this world. She was full of colour, full of sparkle and full of crackle. Thank God for her and that rich life."

Under her stage name of Beverly Brooks, Lady Rothermere played the role of girl friend to Douglas Bader, the legless wartime fighter pilot ace. She was said to be the nickname "Bubbles", coined because of her alleged fondness for champagne and the high life.

Defences dropped after 150 years

## Man abandons Spurn Head to the elements

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A 150-YEAR battle to preserve Spurn Head, the peculiar geographical feature that sticks its sandy tongue three miles out into the Humber estuary, has finally been conceded.

Planners have agreed that the cost of sea defences is no longer worthwhile and that nature should be allowed to reshape the slender peninsula as it had been doing until man intervened in the middle of the last century. They were convinced after a survey by Hull University showed that although the narrow spit might be breached at its landward end and the headland move several hundred yards westwards, there would be no serious repercussions either for Spurn Head itself or the Humber behind it.

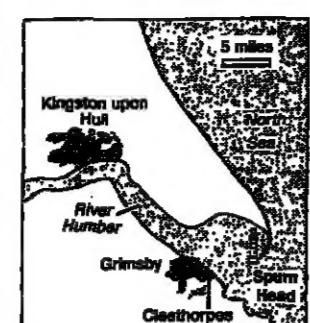
"It was a straight assessment on commercial grounds" said David Kilpatrick, manager of the Holderness Coast Protection Project, a group drawn from all the organisations with interests in the area. "Coastal

defence is a costly business and none of the bodies involved believed the need was so great as to warrant the expenditure." A new sea wall could cost up to £8 million a mile.

The decision was immediately attacked by Harold Walling, a leading figure on Humberside County Council.

He said: "I want Spurn Head preserved as it is and should be launching a campaign to achieve that. It is unique."

The sand dunes are owned by the Yorkshire Wildlife



Trust, which runs a reserve known internationally for its migrating birds. Adjoining mud flats contain a site of special scientific interest and it is also home to the Humber pilot station and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's only permanently manned base in the county.

The wild, windswept area attracts more than 100,000 tourists a year but only a few drive the full length of the causeway to visit the remote lifeboat and pilot stations.

Mr Kilpatrick said that fierce rip tides along the Holderness coast are eroding the sandy shore north of the peninsula at two yards a year. As the land regresses, it leaves Spurn Head more and more exposed, especially at the slender neck linking it to the mainland.

Until the 1950s, the sea wall was maintained by the military who regarded Spurn as a natural defence and gun position against attackers threatening the Humber ports.



Alone with the sea: an ornithologist looks out from Spurn Head

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## Bottomley must set limits of health market

The health secretary must decide soon how tight a rein to keep on the NHS. Jeremy Lawrence examines the options

Somewhere on an Isle of Wight beach this summer, Virginia Bottomley will consider a paper that could have a profound influence on the future of the health service. The document, prepared by the health service management executive, considers the future of the regional health authorities. But the health secretary's conclusions will affect more than a few managerial jobs: they will determine how far the health service market is to be allowed to run, the limits to competition and the protection offered to patients when things go wrong.

The fundamental issue is how tight a rein to keep on the market. London hospitals are already being forced to close beds and cut jobs, and pressures will soon mount elsewhere.

One option is to let the purchasers set their demands and the trust hospitals compete to meet them, while the government takes the risk when the losers are forced to close. In a free market of that kind, there would be no place for a regional tier of management and the division between health authority purchasers and hospital providers would be removed all the way up the hierarchy. A possible model is provided by New Zealand, where there are separate cabinet posts for health purchasing and hospital provision.

Mrs Bottomley is opposed to this option. She dislikes the concepts of "market" and "competition" as applied to the health service and is appalled at the notion that anyone would think that it might be sold off.

She also has a new agenda for the health service set out in the white paper *The Health of the Nation*. For the first time, targets for improvements in health have been established, which will require the co-operation of purchasers and providers. This will entail a level of planning impossible in a free market.

The purchasing and providing arms are brought together by the health service chief executive, Duncan Nichol. While there are 150 hospital trusts, reporting directly to the management executive, the task is manageable. But there could eventually be more than 600 trusts, and only Mr Nichol to keep them in line. There must therefore be an intermediate tier of

management to which trusts would be accountable.

At present, half a dozen "zonal outposts", satellites of the management executive, monitor the trusts. Alongside them, the 14 regional health authorities, with their independent chairmen and non-executive directors, are developing the purchasing role of districts. Responsibilities overlap and the lines of accountability are unclear.

The best way out of this confusion would be a merger of the regions and outposts to form a regional tier of eight or ten regulatory authorities. They would ensure that a hospital losing money on psychiatric care, for example, could not cut provision without regard to the needs of the community.

Equally, a district purchaser would be restrained from imposing unreasonable demands on a hospital.

But the exact role of these new regulatory authorities will depend on their composition. Mrs Bottomley has to decide whether to lean towards the managerial model of the outposts or whether to retain the more independent character of the regional health authorities.

Politically there would be advantages to retaining the regional authorities as a buffer between ministers and the front-line service when things go wrong. But the trusts, having so recently escaped from control by the regions, will not welcome being brought within their bureaucratic ambit again.

The fear is that Mrs Bottomley, anxious to keep the "nose" level in the service down, may opt to leave the situation as it is rather than impose further reform. But without clear lines of accountability, the health market will not be managed properly and patients, not managers, may be the losers.



Bottomley: faces some heavy holiday reading

## Action on ship safety demanded

By LOUISE HIDALGO

THE father of two children who died from sewage fumes as they slept aboard the Swansea-Cork ferry called yesterday for new EC-wide safety standards on ferries using European ports.

Garry Tomlins said in a letter to the *Irish Times* that the death of his children, Katherine, 15, and James, 12, had been caused by the "lamentable quality of the management systems" and would not have happened if the Irish government had insisted on "proper professional standards of care for passengers". Dublin should now take the lead in ensuring the highest standards of safety and management on all European ferry companies, he said.

A consultant architect from Bedford also disclosed yesterday that he had reported the smell of hydrogen sulphide to an officer on board the French-built *Celtic Pride* three weeks before the incident. Paddy Deasy, chief executive of the Irish operators, had said after the event that there had been no reports of noxious gas.

Tom Hancock had been travelling with his family on an overnight crossing to Cork when he was "woken by a foul smell" which he recognised as a potentially lethal concentration of hydrogen sulphide. He notified the duty officer and urged action to be taken.

The ferry company said that all complaints would be investigated but there would be no comment on individual cases until after an "independent investigation".

A NATIONAL Express driver who set out to drive a 72-seat coach from London to Penzance while almost three times over the limit was jailed yesterday for two weeks.

An off-duty policeman saw Terrence Long, 48, of Perranporth, Cornwall, trying to start his vehicle at Victoria coach station after drinking with other drivers. Horseferry Road court, central London, was told.

Terence Maher, the magistrate, said that with the weight of the coach "he may as well have been driving a bomb".

Gerry Wareham, for the prosecution, said there was only one passenger on board at the time. Long was taken to a police station, where a breathalyser test showed he was within two points of triple the limit.

Anthony Moore, for the defence, said Long had turned to drink after his divorce three years ago. "He drinks because of a problem and the situation arose because of his illness. In my view, the cause is dyspepsia."

Long, a coach driver for five years, had been banned from drinking alcohol as a condition of bail set at an earlier hearing. He pleaded guilty to being drunk in charge of his coach on August 7.

The magistrate told him: "I have to impose a short, immediate custodial sentence to reflect the truly horrendous nature of this offence." Long was also banned from driving for 18 months and advised to join Alcoholics Anonymous on release.

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THE TIMES SATURDAY AUGUST 22 1992

HOME NEWS 5

# Male hospital orderly wins £1,000 in sex prejudice case

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A MALE hospital orderly has been awarded £1,000 after a health authority was found guilty of sex discrimination by failing to offer him one of four posts given to women.

Brendan McConnell, the theatre orderly awarded £1,000, said that he was worried about taking his case to the commission, although he knew that its main role was in helping women. "They were able to give me a lot of assistance. I hope what they did for me will encourage other men to come forward if they think there has been discrimination against them."

Mr McConnell, 26, of Belfast, is the second high-profile case in which men in Northern Ireland have won sex discrimination claims. Last year Robert Hamilton, of co. Down, was awarded £850 after a local firm told him that its advertised print operator's job was "only for housewives". Petra Shells, a legal officer with the commission in Belfast, said: "Employers still make traditional assumptions about what work is appropriate for men and women. It is especially in areas like health care that men may experience discrimination. The fact that they have a remedy in law is sometimes forgotten, but employers should remember that traditional views on what are 'men's jobs' and 'women's jobs' can lead to unlawful discrimination."

Mr McConnell, a father of two from the Oldpark area of Belfast, won his case against the Eastern Health and Social Services Board after an industrial tribunal found that the panel interviewing him for a job had been influenced by the fact that there was no men's lavatory or changing facilities in the unit where he was to work. He applied for a job in a new theatre sterile supplies unit at the Mater hospital. Although 14 women and six men were shortlisted, all the successful applicants were women, as were four others appointed to other jobs in the unit.

Kim Brooks, born a man but now living as a woman, borrowed his sister's birth certificate to marry Turgut Renger in Walsall, West Midlands, in October 1989. Wolverhampton Crown Court was told Renger's permission to remain in Britain was extended. The sham went undetected until police, were tipped off by transvestites in London last year.

Brooks, 30, and Renger, 27, both of Clapton, east London, were given nine-month jail sentences, suspended for two years, after admitting making a false oath. Brooks also admitted making a false declaration. His sister, Gillian Pasby, 35, of Donington, Shropshire, was given a conditional discharge after admitting causing a false statement to be made.

## Driver sues BR

Thomas Abbott, 48, a train driver, of Sale, Greater Manchester, is to sue British Rail for trauma suffered after his express train killed a teenager in Stoke-on-Trent earlier this year. He says that he was made to continue his journey, despite being in shock, because no relief drivers were available.

## Police injured

Sergeant Ken Foot, 40, was slashed across the face with a knife and PC Christopher Sloan, 23, was cut on the wrist while trying to arrest a man in Sydenham, southeast London. Neither was badly injured. A man has since been arrested.

## Rape charge

Philip John William Miller, 38, a minibus driver, of Gipsy Hill, southeast London, appeared before Tower Bridge magistrates, charged with raping and falsely imprisoning a woman aged 26. He was remanded in custody until September 18.

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Collision courses: Miki Uozumi, left, Hiromi Inamura and Mayuko Kitamura, studying at the International Language Centre, outside King's College yesterday

## Crowded Cambridge tries to curb language schools

CAMBRIDGE, deluged by a

summer tourist invasion that sometimes appears in danger of sinking the city beneath the surrounding fens, is looking to reduce the number of foreign students on language courses. The city council has organised a survey of the courses to back its campaign for a system of registration.

While the university is on its Easter and summer vacations, thousands of European and

Japanese teenagers move in. Course organisers hire university accommodation, church halls and schools. The courses are commercially run and not connected with the university, but many overseas parents assume that they are.

Availian Adams, principal of the long-established Cambridge Academy of English, said: "There are just too many students here in July and August. You will find them

The growing tide of foreign students has forced the university city to look at ways of cutting numbers, David Young reports

standing in great hordes on the pavements, making it impossible for people to pass by. The city does not have the facilities to keep these young people amused after their courses are over for the day.

They do not have the access to the facilities that the university students have."

Among the students now attending summer school courses is a group of Japanese women enrolled for a course

that they thought would take place in Oxford. Each has paid £3,000 for tuition fees, accommodation, airfares and a programme of day-trips.

Maiko Takazawa, 20, Nina Asai, 18, Mine Nee, 21, and

Kaezumi Uchida, 21, are staying with local families and attending a course run by the Oxford Intensive School of English. Miss Takazawa said: "We are finding that there is little for us to do in the

evenings. We have also found that we are surrounded by other Japanese, which is not what we thought would happen."

Margaret Babcock, the city tourism manager, said: "We must be aware of the benefits that these foreign students bring to the city, but in the peak months we are inundated. We feel that there should be some form of registration and control."

## BR cuts rail link options to ten

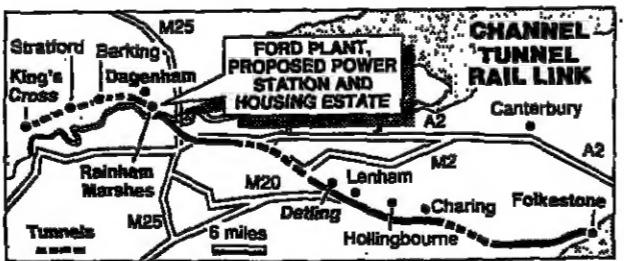
By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

MORE than a hundred options for the final section of the Channel tunnel high speed rail link between Dagenham in Kent and King's Cross station have been reduced to ten, it was disclosed yesterday.

The final two or three options will be submitted to the government in December, in expectation of a decision on the route in the spring. The disclosure coincides with confirmation that Ford motor company has written to John MacGregor, the transport secretary, complaining about British Rail's proposals to run the rail link through the company's manufacturing works at Dagenham in Essex.

Minimising the rail link's impact on Ford's plant is to be put to the last section of the link between Stratford and King's Cross in a tunnel or run it overland alongside the north London railway.

Each of the final options will be submitted to ministers with a comprehensive route appraisal, detailing the cost, environmental impact, scope for economic regeneration, transport benefits, and revenue generating potential.



## Meteorite takes the high road

By KERRY GILL

THE public was urged yesterday to help in the hunt for a meteorite, thought to have entered the atmosphere at 100,000mph and first seen ed over the Bristol Channel.

Astronomical researchers believe that a surviving piece of the meteorite may have

crashed in the Inner Hebrides after travelling north across Wales and the west of Scotland before disappearing.

A fragment of the rock could be lying in someone's back garden on the Islands of Tiree, Jura or Mull or, perhaps more likely, has plummeted into the sea.

Dr John Mason, of the British Astronomical Association in London, has received hundreds of calls from as far afield as Bristol, Cardiff, Sheffield, Anglesey, Stranraer and Fort William from people who saw the glow of the object which was so bright that it lit up the sky on Sunday night.

"I don't think we have had an event as important as this in ten years," he said. "If we can find a remnant it will greatly add to our knowledge of inter-planetary debris reaching the atmosphere," he said. "What we can say for certain is that it was not a piece of man-made space junk. It must have been a natural piece of inter-planetary rock which had been orbiting the sun and has been pulled into the earth's gravity."

The association hopes to piece together all the information about the meteorite. From its path and the rate of descent over a certain area it should be possible to work out

a possible drop zone. Dr Mason said it seemed to have been visible until it was over the Firth of Clyde or even further north.

He said the meteorite's luminosity was caused by the enormous energy it built up as it passed through the sky before disappearing from view as it decelerated and free-fell to the ground.

"Some people who saw it said it turned night into day and caused the ground to light up," Dr Mason said.

There have also been reports of it breaking into fragments that faded out. We have to work out the 'end point' at which it became non-luminous. If that point was, say, 15 to 20 miles up, there is a chance it will have survived and if we can work out the latitude and longitude we may find a surviving fragment."

Although the meteorite was the size of a car when first seen, any remaining fragment would be a tenth of the original. "These 'fire ball' events are fairly rare," Dr Mason said. He emphasised that there was little point in people scouring the countryside for a piece of meteorite.

"It would be very unlikely, unless someone had it fall through their greenhouse, that they would find it by looking casually."

## Judge frees mortgage-trap arsonist

A JUDGE took pity yesterday on a man who set fire to his home the day before it was to be repossessed by a bank.

Darren Kerr, 23, and his two brothers wanted to sell the house for £63,000 to clear their debts and had found a buyer, Oxford Crown Court was told. However, Citibank refused to sanction the deal because it said it was still owed another £3,000.

Judge Medd told Kerr, of Littlemore, Oxford, that

people usually went to prison for setting fire to homes and putting others' lives at risk. He was satisfied, however, that this was out of character.

"The position you were put in when Citibank refused to accept £63,000 I can understand. It must have been frustrating and infuriating to a degree."

Kerr was given a 12-month prison sentence suspended for two years. He pleaded guilty to arson and being reckless as to whether lives would be endangered.

defence said Citibank had been extremely foolish. The decision had been the last straw for Kerr.

Outside court, Kerr said he was pleased with the sentence. "But I did not deserve to go to prison. You have to understand the pressure people are under when their house is to be repossessed." Citibank said later: "We have no record of any formal offer or interest from potential purchasers in Mr Kerr's property."

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\*The balance of the low deposit is due 2nd November 1992, or 10 weeks before departure, or upon cancellation, whichever is sooner.

## Yeltsin predicts hard times but rules out chance of a new coup

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin warned Russians yesterday that they faced a tough autumn and predicted that the opposition would "start their political games again" in October. He forecast, however, that the worst could be over by the beginning of next year. "I have a gut feeling that we will get through and that 1993 will be easier," he said.

Mr Yeltsin was speaking at a press conference in Moscow to mark the first anniversary of the failed coup attempt. It was his first formal press conference in Moscow for more than a year, and he used it not only to prepare Russians for further reforms but also to reveal new details of the coup and to jab at Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet president. He also had some cheer to offer disillu-

sioned sections of Russia's fledgling free press, promising to override the Russian parliament and hand the *Izvestia* newspaper, complete with its property, to its staff.

On the economy, Mr Yeltsin said that the mass privatisation of state industry was the priority and noted that the distribution of privatisation vouchers, each worth 10,000 roubles (£34 at the current rate), would start at the beginning of October, the month when greatest social tension was predicted. He said he

hoped the scheme, which offers a chance to every Russian to own a small part of state industry or exchange the voucher for cash, would reduce the chances of unrest. Some have predicted mass unemployment for the autumn as enterprises that shut or are transferred to short time over the summer fail to reopen or return to full working.

Reminiscing about the three days of the coup last August, Mr Yeltsin said there was much that only he knew. Apparently sniping at Mr Gorbachev, Mr Yeltsin said that so far as he was concerned the coup had come completely out of the blue but, he added, it had not been such a surprise to everyone — and not just to those now in the Matrosskaya Tishina prison, where the coup plotters had been.

Mr Yeltsin said that his chief task had been to "outwit" Vladimir Kryuchkov, the chairman of the KGB, whom he described as "undoubtedly the main initiator and organiser" of the coup attempt. He said the most dangerous moment was when General Varennikov, chief of the Soviet land forces, had run Marshal Yazov from Ukraine and screamed down the telephone at him: "Why haven't you killed Yeltsin yet, why have you not stormed the White House?"

The main difficulty for the Russian side was to find a way of extracting Mr Kryuchkov from the Kremlin because so long as he and the plotters were there they were safe. They finally managed it by insisting that the emergency committee should produce written proof that President Gorbachev was unable to carry out his duties.

After much argument, Mr Kryuchkov agreed to fly to Foros and obtain something in writing, so long as Mr Yeltsin went with him. The Russian parliament, however, refused to let the president go and sent Aleksandr Ruzskoi,

the vice-president, instead. At Belbek airport in the Crimea, Mr Kryuchkov and the others were arrested.

Mr Yeltsin admitted that he had not yet been able to overcome the paralysis in the Russian government that was delaying reforms, but he ruled out absolutely the possibility of a second coup this winter. Asked "what force is capable of organising a coup", he replied: "There is no such force. As long as people continue to believe, they will have patience, and they still believe."

He emphasised, however, that no amount of foreign aid would help Russia if it could not help itself and he paid special tribute to Italy which, he said, held first place for economic help to Russia. He also expressed disappointment with the Japanese. "Japan is unfortunately in last place," he said. The Japanese have made known that they will not commit themselves to large-scale investment in Russia until Russia agrees to a change in the status of the disputed southern Kurile islands.



March of tribute: a guard of honour leads a procession of Russian officials, headed by Yegor Gaidar, the prime minister, past the tomb of the three coup attempt victims on the anniversary of their death

## Maastricht stirs French peasants into revolt

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN THE GARTEMPE VALLEY

Jacques, the mayor of the Poitou village where I spend several weeks each summer, will not be voting for the Maastricht treaty in France's referendum next month. He is a Gaullist and "nobody could be more European than I", but the treaty is a "mess". The Europe foreseen by the treaty, he says, is an undemocratic botch run by Brussels technocrats.

A peasant's revolt against those technocrats and all their works is brewing in the French countryside. The sim-

mering anger against both Paris and Brussels is the unnoticed factor that may upset President Mitterrand's calculation that he can rescue the Maastricht treaty by calling for a resounding French vote of confidence.

However, in Poitou and other poor rural areas the "no" bandwagon rolled before ministers came back from the Côte d'Azur. The referendum is turning into the opportunity for the silent population of the tattered farms and dusty sunflower

fields to tell their masters how they feel about the obliteration of the world they have known all their lives.

Poitou is the heartland of grassroots grievances that may not break the surface until huge farmers' demonstrations planned for the late stages of the referendum campaign. The soil is poor and the past three summers have seen droughts. Smallholdings are too tiny to be economic. A walk through any hamlet will reveal milking equipment inside cavernous, gloomy barns that has not been seen in British farms since the 1950s. Earlier this summer, southern farmers bricked up the gate of the Avignon holiday home of the icy royal Elisabeth Guigou, France's European affairs minister, in an evocative display of contempt for France's condescending Socialists.

The only Maastricht post-

er visible in our commune are small signs in the verge planted by the almost

defunct Communist Party, which is fighting for a "no" vote. Questions about Maastricht are generally answered by a bemused or faintly embarrassed shrug. There is no alternative to change, but that is not the way Jacques and his constituents see the agenda of the referendum campaign. The government has protected traditional country life and, they believe, should do so again. For them, the stew of debate over Maastricht is another sign that Paris is not listening.

Michael Jackson will take his world tour to Romania next month in what is billed as the biggest performance yet by a Western pop star in the formerly communist country.

The trial of 16 former communist Albanian leaders, including Nentori Hoxha, the widow of Albania's former Stalinist leader, Enver Hoxha, accused of corruption and abuse of power, has been adjourned after prosecutors requested more time to investigate the charges.

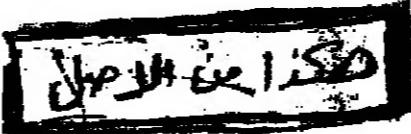
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## UN centre hit as shelling of Sarajevo intensifies

By ROBERT SKEELY AND DESSA TREVISON IN BELGRADE

AT LEAST six people were killed and more than 20 wounded yesterday after a mortar bomb attack on Sarajevo city centre. The Bosnian capital was blasted by mortars, grenades and machinegun fire after the worst day of fighting for a month. The city is without electricity and suffering bread shortages.

During street battles between rival Muslim and Serbian factions, five mortar bombs fell in the district between the Bosnian government building and the city's main marketplace. The Tito barracks, home of the Ukrainian United Nations contingent, was repeatedly hit, destroying roofs and several UN vehicles.

A doctor at one hospital in Sarajevo said 13 civilians had been injured by the attack, seven seriously. The Belgrade news agency, Tanjug, reported that during the 24 hours until noon on Thursday 41 people were killed and 202 injured throughout the republic. Eleven of the dead and 55 of the wounded came from Sarajevo alone.

The most intense fighting in the capital flared in the suburbs of Hrasno and Nedzarici, where buildings were extensively hit. Battles were also raging in other parts of the republic. However, despite the upturn in the violence, the United Nations relief operation continued as normal with 23 flights into the Bosnian capital.

In Belgrade, leaders of the rump Yugoslav state and of the Bosnian Serbs yesterday set out their agendas for next week's London peace talks. In an interview with *The Times*, Radovan Karadzic, the leader of the Bosnian Serbs and central in implementing the ethnic cleansing policy, said that he would present a "comprehensive solution" to the war in Bosnia.

## Desire to live in harmony survives

Roger Boyes  
detects signs  
that Yugoslavs  
can still end up  
as peaceful  
neighbours

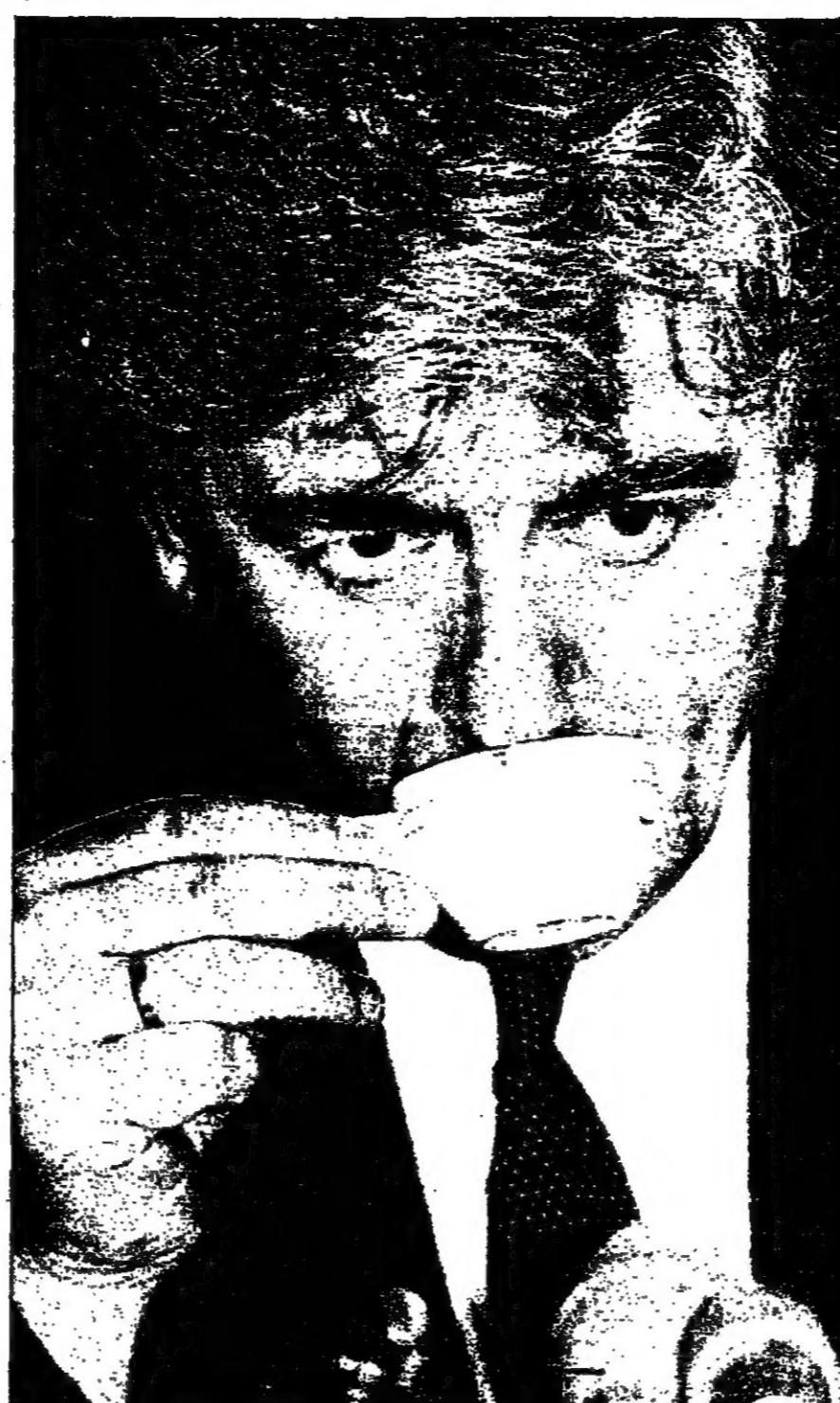
CAN the peoples of Yugoslavia ever live together again? It is difficult to imagine in a region ablaze. Trawl the crowds of Bosnian refugees in Zagreb's Red Cross headquarters wanting to send 25-word formula letters to imprisoned relatives and the answer seems clear: the war has gone too far. A shattered family is a shattered nation.

Then there is a dissonant voice. A Bosnian grandmother, a civil servant from a village near Gorazde, says he wants to go back. This is the second time his house has been razed by Serb Chetniks — the first time was in 1941 — and he is willing to rebuild again. "What is the choice — to be like the Kurds?" If going back means making an arrangement with new Serbian overlords, then so be it, he says.

The elderly man may not be typical but he speaks for a significant body of opinion. Too much has been invested in the past to seek a new future in the West. "We want to return to any piece of scrap land in Bosnia," said a 19-year-old refugee from Foca, near Gorazde, quoted on Croatian radio.

Serbs are regarded by some as enemies and by others as nostalgically remembered neighbours and friends. The balance is hostile to the Serbs, but is shifting. "You can notice a feeling common to both Croatian and Bosnian refugees that Serbs perhaps do not want to do what they are doing," a United Nations official in Zagreb says.

Mladen Klemencic, a Za-



Bitter curx Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, sipping coffee in Belgrade yesterday. He said all sides must be treated equally

reb demographer, has proposed that when, and if, ethnic cleansing is reversed, that mixed Serb-Croat regions could be regulated much as the Swedish minority is treated in Finland, according to ethnic percentages in each community. The

time for that kind of solution may have passed; the necessary trust has withered. But there is a desire, among a few, to live together again and international peacemakers have to start from that small base. "To denounce ethnic cleansing is not sufficient," said a Western diplomat in Zagreb. "One has to put forward an alternative vision of a multicultural society. That means protecting every community, including Serbs, that feels threatened and damping down the natural desire for revenge."

## Greece indulges in nationalist myths

FROM JOHN CARE IN ATHENS

Epiros," which includes what is now most of southern Albania up to the port of Vlora. Though undeniably a part of the Greek world since ancient times, it was incorporated into Albania by big power agreement earlier this century.

Associations of ethnic Greeks from Albania based in Athens make no bones about their desire to see that region eventually back in the Greek fold. "The territorial question is not over," Constantine Giagias, secretary of the Northern Epiros Association, born in Albania, says.

Athens routinely dismisses Albanian claims that an Albanian-speaking minority in northwestern Greece, known as the Chams, is being denied cultural rights. Admittedly, not a single Cham has yet complained to Athens or made any kind of case. Neither is there any evidence that an older Albanian element — the Arvanites — who settled in southern Greece and around Athens in the last century, now think of themselves as anything other than Greek. However, traces of a Slavic tongue can be found among some of the older people in the villages east of Athens.

Down in the tail-end of the Balkans, the Greeks have caught the nationalist bug as badly as anyone. While the government wants the world to believe Greece is an oasis of Western democratic logic in the mad Balkan maelstrom, the Greeks themselves appear to be acting otherwise.

When ethnic Greek candidates made gains in Albanian municipal elections last month, Greek newspapers proudly printed photographs of the candidates unfurling huge Greek flags in their southern Albanian villages. Yet Greece's own Turkish-speaking Muslim minority near the Turkish border is not allowed to call itself ethnic Turkish, and any Muslim unfurling a Turkish flag in public risks jail.

Extremes of emotion have clouded what is a double standard in Athens' ethnic minorities policies. Several generations of Greeks have grown up on one of the stickiest of the world's irredentisms: the issue of "Northern

Greece". Nationalistic neurosis has also revealed itself in a new touchiness about the world's modern marketing symbol of Greece, the Parthenon. Last week the Coca-Cola company had to apologise to the Greek government after one of its advertisements in an Italian magazine featured the temple's venerable columns in the shape of Coca-Cola bottles.

Matters were not helped when the *Spectator* of London featured a Parthenon surrounded by barbed wire and machinegun towers on its cover. The story, on Greek fears of Balkan ethnic groups, was condemned by the Athens daily *Eleftherotypia* as "provocative and obscene".

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## Bush begs the American people to give him a second chance



Roosevelt: dramatic flight to convention

CANDIDATES' acceptance speeches were once no more than the formal postscript to the proceedings of a convention. As late as 1960 John Kennedy invoked his famous vision of America's "New Frontier" on the Friday night outside the convention hall. Indeed, it was not until 1932, when Franklin Roosevelt made a dramatic flight from New York to Chicago, that candidates appeared at a convention at all.

But the primaries and television between them soon changed all that. Now that the roll call of the states has become simply an empty piece of ritual, it is success or failure of the nominee's acceptance speech that charges the convention with whatever air of excitement it still retains. The challenge was particu-

A speech without a memorable phrase may have served to turn the campaign back into a genuine contest, writes Anthony Howard in Houston.

lary tough for President Bush on Thursday night. Here, after all, was no novice making his debut on the political stage. (Even the joke about the president reminding women of their first husband has now been recycled to suggest that he puts both men and women in mind of their father-in-law.) When Governor Bill Clinton at least had an aura of novelty surrounding him in New York five weeks ago, Mr Bush knew that he was bound to have associated with him a much more dangerous sense of familiarity.

Presidents do not often apologise but, after his notorious "read my lips" pledge of 1988, Mr Bush realised that there was no escape from doing so. He had to admit error — "it was a bad call" was one characteristic phrase — if he was to retain any credibility on the tax issue. He did it in the end graciously and well, even if his depiction of himself as having been conned by Congress in 1990 necessarily involved a risk of reviving all the old accusations about his being a wimp.

Yet the bravest decision of all was to make the economy — rather than family or cultural values, on which the Republicans have concentrated so much attention this week — the speech's dominant theme. The debate over how far the president should "bite the bullet" (to borrow another of his phrases) on addressing economic issues apparently divided Republican strategists. But in reality there was little choice. To have done anything else would not only have been seen as a cop-out; it would have left the Republicans in danger of looking like a crackpot party.

Otherwise, the president's various economic proposals were a little too reminiscent of a laundry list. There were something like 18 of them in all, which is more than a television viewer or even a newspaper reader can properly be expected to take in. One of the perils of being president may be that it becomes increasingly difficult to distinguish one sort of speech from another. There were moments on Thursday night when Mr

Bush sounded as if he thought he was delivering a State of the Union message to Congress.

His address certainly did not rate as "the speech of a lifetime", as it had been billed, not least because there was barely a memorable phrase in it, nothing even to rival the promise in 1988 of a kinder, gentler America.

In terms of turning the campaign back into a genuine contest it may, however, have served its purpose. Proud and feisty as he sounded at times, the president in effect threw himself on the mercy of the American people. The irony is that he is clearly banking on them being a good deal more "kind and gentle" than the Republican Party has revealed itself to be this past week.

Clifford Longley, page 16

### Clinton-baiting delights convention

## President resurrects pledge of tax cuts

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN HOUSTON

THE Republican army left Houston yesterday to wage a 10-week war against the Democrats armed with extreme social conservatism and relentless assaults on Bill Clinton's character, reinforced by a bold new presidential pledge of across-the-board tax cuts.

In a Thursday night speech that brought the party's convention to a thunderous climax and set the scene for a vicious autumn campaign, George Bush resurrected the Republican trump card of the past three elections by promising across-the-board tax reductions if re-elected. He urged Americans to "join me in a new crusade — to reap the rewards of our global victory".

Mr Bush pledged to offset tax cuts with spending reductions, but independent ana-

lysts said the required cuts would be so deep and so painful that this promise would be even harder to keep than his 1988 "no new taxes" pledge. The Clinton camp issued a statement saying it made his 1988 pledge look "truthful and responsible" and was "one of the most cynical plays ever attempted by any presidential candidate". It was a "blatant attempt to buy the election".

Mr Bush's speech accepting his party's nomination was billed as the most critical of his long career. But it was far from clear that he had provided either the compelling second-term agenda that American voters were demanding or a convincing prescription for their economic

future.

At times defensive, at others boastful, Mr Bush claimed to have seized the "two defining opportunities ... of an entire span of human history" by helping end communism and the threat of nuclear annihilation. He glossed over President Saddam Hussein's survival in power, claiming to have "locked a tyrant in the prison of his own country".

Aside from tax cuts, Mr Bush proposed a plan whereby taxpayers could earmark up to 10 per cent of their payments specifically for deficit reduction. Each dollar set aside for that purpose would be matched by an equal cut in government spending programmes. Experts said the cap alone would require cuts of \$293 billion (£151 billion) over five years from such popular programmes as Medicare and Medicaid, and the tax-earmarking proposal up to another \$51 billion annually.

The proposed guarantee to Quebec came under immediate attack in British Columbia, however, where Michael Harcourt, the province's premier, dissented from the package.

### Canadian reform deal shows signs of fraying

FROM JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

IN WHAT is being hailed as an important step towards healing divisions between indigenous and other Canadians, the country's political leaders have unanimously agreed to recognise the inherent right of natives to self-government. Even as the agreement was being announced late on Thursday, however, an accord hammered out the day before on parliamentary reform started to show signs of fraying.

On Wednesday, Brian Mulroney, the prime minister, and the ten provincial pre-

miers concluded a deal that would transform Senate and Commons. Under it, Quebec would be guaranteed 25 per cent of Commons seats in perpetuity, even if the province's share of the national population falls. That would compensate for Quebec's heavy loss of seats in a restructured Senate, where all provinces would have six seats.

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## Talks delay UN air warning to Saddam

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

THE Gulf war allies are to tell Baghdad on Monday or Tuesday that Iraqi warplanes and helicopters will be shot down if they fly south of the 32nd parallel.

Bush administration officials said last night that the noisy warning will come probably in the form of a letter to Iraq's ambassador at the United Nations. It will tell him that allied aircraft will patrol the air exclusion zone and monitor Iraqi ground actions against the Shia Muslims in the southern marshlands.

The presence of Jan Eliasson, the UN special envoy, in Baghdad this week has been a contributing factor to

the delay in the allies' issuing a formal warning to Baghdad. The allies have had to wait while Mr Eliasson has been talking to the Iraqis about allowing UN observers and international relief workers access to the southern marshlands. On Thursday Mr Eliasson co-ordinator of UN relief operations, said he had made some progress about getting the Iraqis to sign a new memorandum of understanding on international relief operations, but there were "several problems". Yesterday a UN official in New York said Mr Eliasson's mission, which will continue into the weekend, is "not going great but is

not going terribly". The allies could be placed in an embarrassing position, if President Saddam Hussein does permit relief workers and accompanying UN guards into southern Iraq. If Mr Eliasson's mission fails, Washington will cite it as yet another example of Iraqi defiance of the UN.

The Bush administration has still not officially announced its role in the air exclusion plan. The White House has clearly been determined to try to distance the Republican convention from Iraq policy after the president was accused in a front-page report in *The New York Times* of planning to use a new tough

policy in the Gulf as an election ploy. London and Paris have been left to make the public running on the noisy proposal.

In Tehran, an Iranian leader said his country opposed "satanic" American designs to establish a military presence in southern Iraq. Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, head of the judiciary, told worshippers at Friday prayers: "What does this aerial safety zone mean when the question whether it will be safe or not on the ground is still left open? Will ground safety be added? And where will all this lead to?"

Iraqi opposition groups were pushing for the West to take measures that would prevent Saddam's ground forces attacking the Shia Muslims. One opposition leader even predicted that, far from helping the Shias, Western plans to establish an air exclusion zone would backfire as Saddam vented his fury on them. An air exclusion zone is aimed at helping to protect the marsh Arabs and the estimated 200,000 refugees and rebels hiding in the swamplands because heavy armour cannot operate in the water-logged terrain.

Control over southern Iraq is essential for the long-term survival of the Saddam regime. Iraq's only outlets to the Gulf are in the south and huge oilfields are hidden in the marshlands.

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Head money

Jakarta: Indonesia has rewarded a farmer who gave food and a bed to a suspected rebel before beheading him as he slept. The farmer was awarded several times the local annual income. (Reuters)

Thousands flee

Manila: Heavy rain triggered rivers of steaming mud from Mount Pinatubo, the volcano in the northern Philippines, forcing nearly 250,000 people to flee the area and killing at least one person. (Reuters)

Hard warning, page 3

## Miami links Castro to drugs

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

THE US attorney's office in Miami is considering bringing charges against President Castro of Cuba for drug smuggling, law enforcement sources said yesterday. The office has declined comment.

Adding fuel to the reports, *The Miami Herald* yesterday ran an editorial headlined "Indict the Castro brothers". But Miami lawyers familiar with the attorney's office are sceptical that charges will be brought. "There have been other drug cases where Castro's name has come up," said one former US Attorney. "But

proving his involvement in a court of law is another story."

Some suspect election year politics may be an influence. Florida is a traditional Republican stronghold where the anti-Castro Cuban vote is a strong factor. But in recent visits to Miami, Bill Clinton has outlined Republican policy on Cuba by endorsing a tougher economic embargo.

Cuban-born Roberto Martinez, the US Attorney in Miami, was recently appointed by President Bush. But colleagues and friends say he would not lend his office to

political games. "Bobby's not a person who will be manipulated," said one colleague.

A book on Cuba published last month entitled *Castro's Final Hour*, by Andres Oppenheimer, a *Miami Herald* reporter, raised allegations linking Dr Castro to drug deals. The book claims that he authorised over-flight operations and contacts with the Medellin cartel to smuggle cocaine through third countries, but he ... always discouraged Cuban officials from letting the cocaine pass through the island".

Control over southern Iraq is essential for the long-term survival of the Saddam regime. Iraq's only outlets to the Gulf are in the south and huge oilfields are hidden in the marshlands.

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THE TIMES SATURDAY AUGUST 22 1992

## Hope revives for Pretoria talks

## Ramaphosa meeting breaks deadlock

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

THE first sign of a break in the constitutional logjam that has been bedeviling South African political life for the past two months came yesterday with the news, released by the African National Congress that Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC general secretary, was meeting Roelf Meyer, the constitutional development minister.

The location of the meeting and its agenda were not disclosed, but the ANC said that the two were holding discussions on removing obstacles towards the resumption of negotiations. "Discussions will focus on identification of steps to be taken to address the issues raised in earlier memoranda exchanged between the government and the ANC," the movement said.

The ANC laid down 14 separate demands which it insisted the government would have to meet before constitutional talks could be resumed. In reality, no one expects them to answer all the demands in full, but to take identifiable steps towards meeting them. In essence, the demands boil down to agreeing to take steps to end the violence and agreeing to the election of a constituent assembly with enhanced power to write a constitution.

After the Boipatong killings, when the ANC broke off talks, it and the government conducted de facto negotiations in public through the exchange of incompletely worded memoranda. Though they were harshly phrased on both sides, they did involve some genuine movement on the government side towards meeting the ANC's positions.

## Kenya clears path for Somalia airlift

FROM REUTER IN NAIROBI

KENYA and the United States have patched up an embarrassing dispute that had delayed the start of an American airlift of food for starving Somalis.

A hurried meeting yesterday between President Moi and American officials opened the way for the first United States relief flight for refugees in northern Kenya, the initial phase of the 145,000-tonne American operation for Somalia. In a joint statement, they said the first airlift was taking place yesterday.

The White House announced the airlift a week ago as part of an international operation to save 1.5 million Somalis at risk of starvation. In a statement on television on Thursday, however, David Andere, a Kenyan government spokesman accused Washington of flouting Kenyan sovereignty by failing to seek permission to fly in military transport planes. "Instead of handing the food to relief agencies, the US Air Force plans to have its own personnel distribute the food," the statement said.

T.J. Dowling, an embassy official, called the accusations

"outright fabrication", adding: "We requested clearance all the way down the line." Permission to land the aircraft had been granted for Mombasa and had been correctly requested for Wajir", the aid's destination.

Hundreds of Somali refugees rounded up by police in Nairobi last weekend were loaded under guard on to buses yesterday for transport to refugee centres, United Nations officials said. Kenyan officials said the refugees were arrested for failing to register with the authorities or for deserting refugee camps.

**Sudan appeal:** Church leaders in Sudan have appealed for urgent United Nations intervention to help 250,000 civilians trapped in the southern city of Juba, some of fighting between government and rebel forces.

Bishop Nathaniel Garang, acting chairman of the New Sudan Council of Churches, said in a message released in Nairobi yesterday: "They [civilians] are being held hostage by the government troops. The airport is closed, so food and other essential items like medicines cannot reach them."

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Golden touch: a Taipei trading firm employee displaying one of ten Chinese gold coins, worth about £72,000 and weighing 11lb, which were minted to mark the tenth anniversary of the smaller panda gold coins

## Wealth of Seoul wins over China

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON  
IN PEKING

THE riches of capitalist South Korea have at last proved irresistible to investment-hungry China. Peking seems set to establish diplomatic relations with its former enemy, Seoul, on Monday, rejoining its old friend North Korea to almost total isolation.

The move is a victory for Seoul, which has pushed hard for this, and which announced the decision yesterday. Peking remained silent, appearing embarrassed at humiliating one of its last communist allies, Pyongyang.

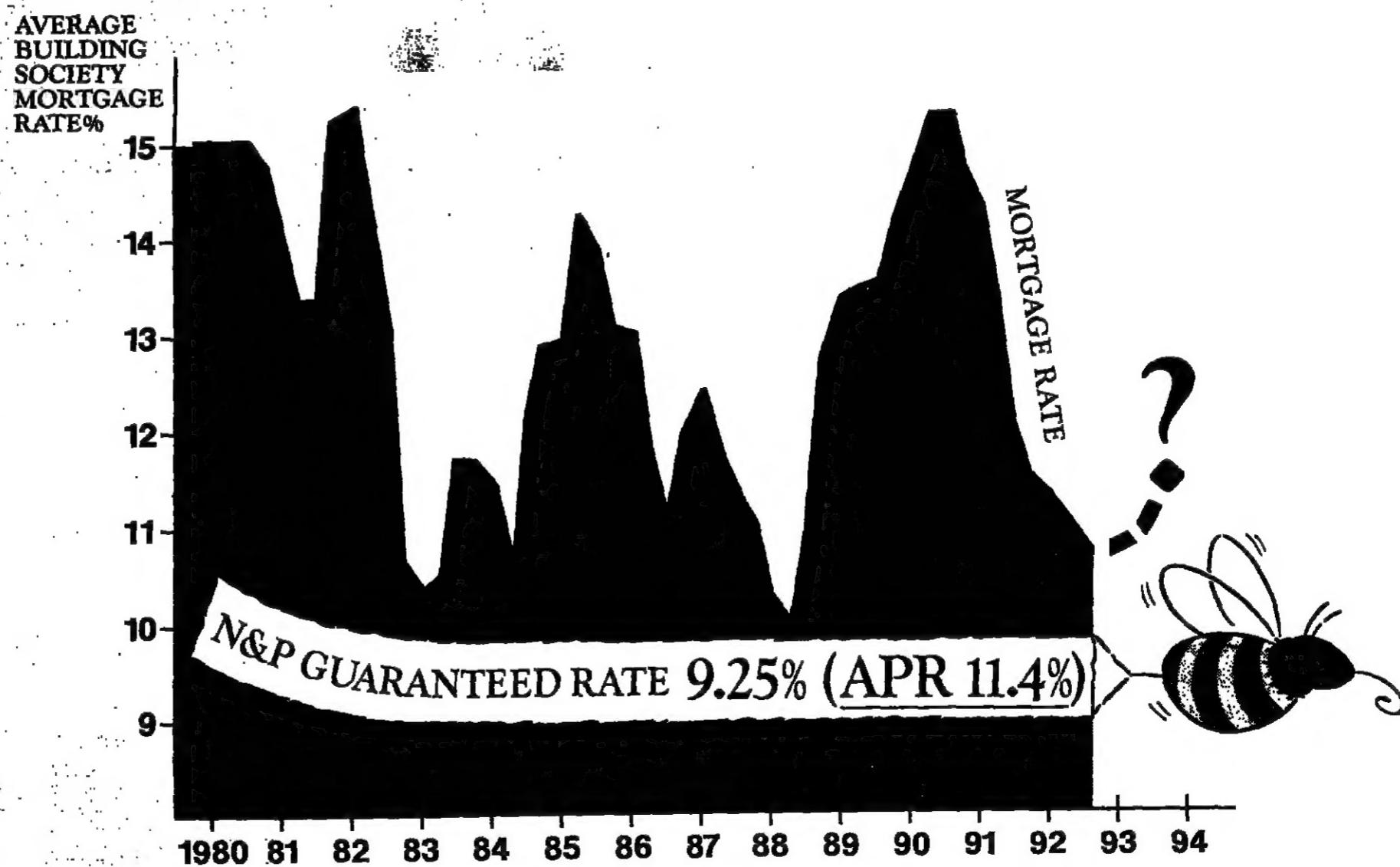
Lee Sang Ock, the South Korean foreign minister, will leave for Peking tomorrow and is expected to sign normalisation documents with Qian Qichen, his Chinese counterpart, on Monday.

Peking, which maintains that Taiwan is a province of China under rebel nationalist rule, has insisted that Seoul must break its diplomatic links with Taipei. When Taiwan officials first reported on Thursday that Seoul had reached agreement with Peking, students in Taipei burnt South Korean flags.

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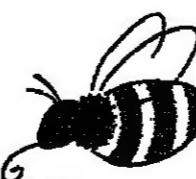
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## Clifford Longley

### Playing politics with religion may backfire

If George Bush eventually needs a scapegoat for electoral defeat, what used to be called an American moral majority would make a prime candidate. Under the current euphemism of family values, a set of conservative moral and religious prejudices has gotten itself written into the Republican presidential platform. But playing politics with religion, in a country which prizes the formal separation of church and state enshrined in its constitution, is a risky pastime.

The heartland of the family values appeal is in Protestant America. But it is a complex culture, also on the side of liberty. It dislikes overt state interference in moral or religious matters. Given a choice between godlessness and ending the separation of church and state, many God-fearing Americans would see the former as the lesser evil.

The most obvious respect in which the Republicans are playing politics with religion concerns abortion. Some Republicans have been eager to make an issue of this because they care deeply others, in order to draw Roman Catholic support away from the Democrats (where it traditionally lies), which is a cynical strategy to wrong-foot Bill Clinton with some of his key ethnic constituencies such as the Irish, the Italians and the Hispanics.

The current appeal to fundamentalist religion is broader than over abortion alone: in fact Protestant fundamentalists have been slow to take up the abortion issue. In return for the endorsement of Pat Buchanan, his earlier rival for the nomination, Mr Bush has accepted into his party manifesto a package of pious platitudes which on the surface do little more than embroider the celebrated pair, motherhood and apple-pie, with religious overtones. But "strengthening family life", in a Republican policy speech, has nothing to do with better medical care for mothers and children on welfare. It is code for something else: the revival of a national ideology with strongly religious, even millennial, overtones.

America has a peculiar religious history. It is the pre-eminently religious nation of the West, with weekly church-going rates far higher than in western Europe and beliefs and values which would be familiar in an English Victorian schoolroom. America is commonly seen from Britain as embodying Britain's future, as if what happens there today is bound to happen here tomorrow. In fact America, in its core values and beliefs, is about a century behind secular Britain.

To close the gap of transatlantic incomprehension, the British need to recall bits of their own religious history that they have suppressed. William Blake's celebrated poem *Jerusalem*, which has become almost the unofficial national anthem, is one example of a very popular 17th and 18th century nationalist religious myth. This was the peculiar belief that the Anglo-Saxon race was descended from the lost tribe of Israel. In His capacity as Israel's Saviour, therefore, Christ must have visited England, hence Blake's words: "And did those feet, in ancient times . . . ?"

The legend that British-Israel was a chosen people under God's special protection and under Christ's special redemption may not have been believed as literally true by many, certainly not among the sophisticates. But it was exported as half-truth to American New England, and took root in Puritan territory. There it quickly became wholly true in the minds of many and various Protestant sects of the late 18th and early 19th century.

The most famous surviving sect derived from that British-Israel mythology is the Jehovah's Witnesses: the most famous in America, the Mormons. But the Americanised British-Israelite myth, far from being forgotten like its British counterpart, was shorn of its more implausible historical assertions and went on to become virtually the official religious ideology of the United States. It inspired, among other things, the doctrine of white Anglo-Saxon America's "manifest destiny" to absorb and settle adjacent territories (and drive out their native inhabitants).

The phrase "God's own country", which seems to outsiders just a profane brag, is deeply resonant with this strange American-Israelite myth. There may be votes in stirring that mystically patriotic pot. But the patriotic idealism of America is not only about god-given grandeur. It is also about creating a fair and generous society, a Promised Land. They may conjure up the former spirit, that of national glory; but in so doing the Republicans may find themselves being judged by the latter, the spirit of justice.

The audience for classical music is changing and the BBC must cater for it, argues Nicholas Kenyon

**S**o Gerald Kaufman has said on this page (August 17) that he is going to eat Radio 3 for breakfast, rather than listen to it. I can appreciate that as a committed consumer of BBC Radio 3 in its present form he, like many readers, will feel defensive about my changes to its format. But I find it disturbing that someone in his position in public life should adopt such a stance of studied apathy towards a potential audience for the network. Culture is not just for those in the know.

Mr Kaufman's passing comment that "we should, of course, seek to please listeners some of the time" seems to me to underestimate the case. It's surely a responsibility — and a hugely enjoyable one, for those of us who love classical music — in using the BBC's licence fee, both to sustain our cultural life and to make the riches of Radio 3 available to as many people as can be found to enjoy them. We need to recogni-

## Why Radio 3 needs change

nise that the nature of the audience for classical music has changed, and that Radio 3 must change too without sacrificing quality or range in its output.

In the week following this year's hugely successful BBC Proms season, Radio 3 will present its full new schedule: an outstanding season of drama from Robert Lindsay and Dorothy Tutin in Yeats' version of Sophocles' *Oedipus* through to Michael Hastings' *Tom and Viv*. We will make our distinctive contribution to the Spanish celebrations with documentaries, features, plays, operas, and two special Queen Elizabeth Hall concerts juxtaposing medieval and renaissance music with modern masterpieces by Falla and Gerhard. This is scarcely "junk

radio" — there's enough beef in this mixture for even Mr Kaufman. There will be some new formats, including our late-night live arts programme, *Night Waves*, and regular slots for chamber, vocal, early and contemporary music — so that listeners know where they are among the vast range of our output.

There will be plenty of surprises, even beyond Franz Welser-Möst, from John Cage to David Mercer to Steven Martland. Perhaps because we started three of our new programmes earlier this summer — precisely because we knew they would be the most difficult to get right, and to give time to respond to listener reaction and refine the formats — I accept we may have given a misleading impression

about the range of changes we are planning. I would be the last to suggest that everything is right; I have been noting every reaction, and over the next couple of weeks listeners will hear some changes here.

But we are moving in the right direction. The question, I suspect, comes down to one of balance, and here Mr Kaufman exaggerates wildly: the new formats that have irritated him account for nowhere near 40 per cent of our output. We are broadcasting about one-fifth of the listening week as a way-in for potential new listeners: not too much of a shock, I hope, to the habits of our fiercely loyal regular listeners.

Radio 3 is about communication, and we will rely on listeners

to keep us constantly on our toes and ensure that communication is of the highest quality, because Radio 3 will always be judged by quality, not by listening figures. But that quality will not be of the same kind, or tone, or content, as that of the old Third Programme (which, remember, happened only in the evenings where its intensity could be sustained throughout the hours it broadcast). We need to accept that people listen in different ways at different times of the day, and with different needs. Some of them may even wish to be kept in touch with news and information, or to hear the central works of the classical repertory.

Mr Kaufman's more personal remarks about my activities as a music critic and as a concert

No other culture has produced such a rich literature on the subject, ranging from Waugh's *Decline and Fall* to Geoffrey Willans' wonderfully illiterate tales of Nigel Molesworth, "the gorilla of 3B" at St Cuthard's who insisted that "GURLS are utterly wet and weed-struck". Only a talent nurtured in this country could have produced a vision as weird and marvellous as the film *If...*

Perhaps this is because the English have always invested so much expectation in their schooling, refusing to accept that education is simply about the transmission of knowledge. Ever since the aristocracy decided to educate its children away from home, and Sir Philip Sidney arrived at Shrewsbury, schools have devoted as much attention to social ideals as they have to the three Rs and the classics.

For centuries, public schools have offered a rugged training in manliness as preparation for high office or subscribed to Thomas Arnold's more refined belief in the young Christian gentleman. The state system, in contrast, has veered from a faith in social mobility through selection at 11, to a programme for social unity through comprehensivisation.

Thus, schools have always held a mirror up to the nation's soul, from the libertarian risings of the late 18th Century fought by pupils under the banner of the tricolour, to the ethnic tensions of today's inner city playground. Straightforward curriculum matters — the decline of Shakespeare or A-level results — may be jolly important, but it is the drama of schools which inspire genuine fascination.

The row row at Stratford, the anarchic regime at Summerhill and the resignation of the head mistress of St Paul's, all are little parables of English life, runes which are read for encrypted social messages. This is why Shaw missed the point when he called for the abolition of the great public schools. For the true old school tie is the one that binds youthful memory to future imagination.

*Old School Ties*, by Tim Devlin and Hywel Williams, Sinclair Stevenson. £17.99

## Matthew d'Ancona looks at Britons' strange

### fascination with which school they went to

**E**ton, Harrow, Winchester ... and their cheaper and more pernicious imitators should be razed to the ground and their foundations sown with salt," wrote Bernard Shaw in 1923. Doubtless his outburst struck a chord with contemporary radicals angry at the influence of the great public schools, but, seven decades on, his words have a hollow ring. The foundations of these monuments to intellect and privilege are secure; their aura is undimmed.

Why this should be so is a cultural puzzle addressed by *Old School Ties*, a study of the links between schooling and success to be published next week. Its authors, a public relations consultant and a schoolmaster at Rugby, have gathered together the memories of 1,600 public figures, arranged by profession, to discover what impact their schooldays had upon the evolution of their lives and careers. At last, the schoolboys of Sam Fox and Sir Bernard Ingham will join those of Tom Brown in educational legend and trivia addicts will be able to check on Sir Leon Brittan's fellow *alumni* at Haberdashers' Aske's (they include Alan Whicker and Simon Schama).

As might be expected of such high-achievers, more than half claim that school made little difference to the professional paths they followed and most try to talk down the notion of the all-pervasive old school tie. "I have never liked a person because he's an Etonian and I have not helped a person or been helped by a person because he's an Etonian," says Nigel Nicolson.

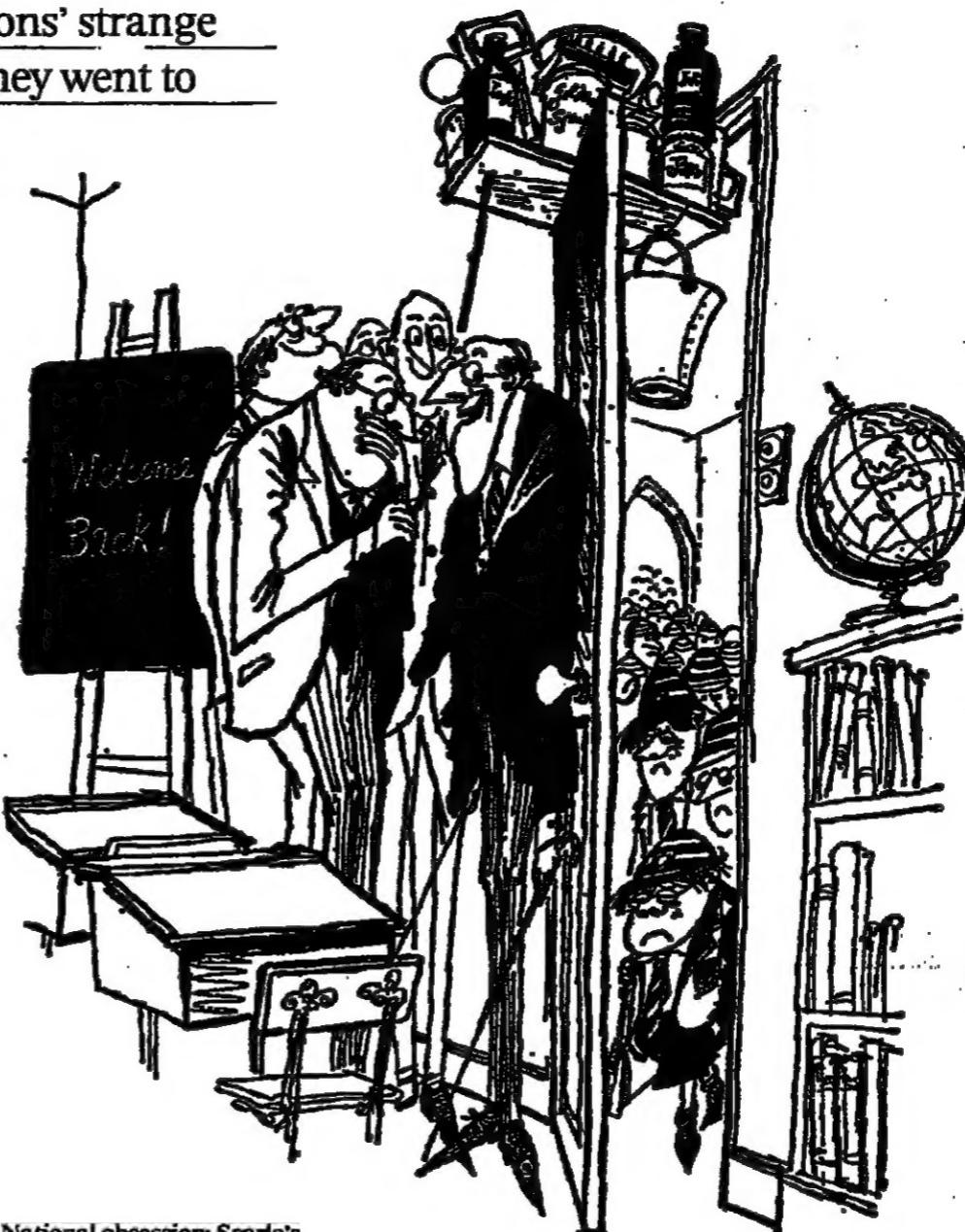
The book's inspiration was the ironic contrast between Douglas Hurd's campaign for the Tory leadership, which played down his Etonian origins, and John Major's which milked his grammar school credentials and lack of university education. Earlier this year, Eric Anderson, Head Master of Eton, lamented to old boys that the tacit "understanding" between the school and Oxford and Cambridge colleges were withering away, a victory for the classless society, if not for parents shelling out £8,500 a year on their progeny. Evidently, values have changed since Stanley Baldwin promised he would have six Harrovians in his cabinet on the grounds that his predecessors had only had five.

Yet the change is largely cosmetic, a matter of acceptable political rhetoric rather than social reality. John Major is, after all, the only member of his cabinet who did not attend either a private school or an Oxford or Cambridge college, and more than half of the 63 new Tories who entered parliament this year under the banner of classlessness were educated at private school, bringing the total on the government benches to 201.

Of the 1,600 case studies in *Old School Ties*, chosen for their media prominence, 86 turn out to be Old Etonians. And just as Winchester (represented in the book by 52 old boys) used to be famous for churning out Labour politicians, different kinds of schools still seem to feed particular professions.

The harsh environment of Eton dormitory, for example, is clearly a fine nursery for civic virtue, though not for Machiavellian ambition: 63 per cent of respondents involved in public service went to boarding schools, compared to only 38 per cent of politicians. Less surprisingly, three-quarters of the top military brass spurs at private schools, compared to only a third of prominent actors and about a half of politicians. Such statistics do not prove that English society is riddled with nepotism; but they do suggest that the schoolboy is the father of the man, that time spent in the classroom is deeply formative.

For this reason, nostalgia — the true vice *anglaise* — plays an important part in the memories collected in the book, as today's great and good fondly confess a debt to a Mr Chips or a Miss



National obsession: Searle's view of St Cuthard's

Brodie who helped them see the academic light or clamber up the social ladder. A.L. Rowse, for example, attributes his scholarly success to the inspiration of the headmaster at St Austell Grammar School, without whom "I should not, as a working-class boy, have known about Oxford or scholarships to get there". Yet one is equally struck by the sheer brutality recorded in these

true classroom confessions. Tam Dalyell remembers Nicholas Ridley's reputation at Eton as "a superb schoolboy painter" who was nonetheless "a bit rough with the cane", while Linda Kison, the Falklands war artist, recalls "real sadism" among the female Flashmen of Tortington Park near Arundel, now an open prison. Perhaps there is truth in the cliché that English school life

is a preparation for adversity and in Newbolt's poetic belief that "the voice of the schoolboy" would always rally the disheartened ranks.

For all its earnest sociology, *Old School Ties* is really a literary offering to a tribal obsession, since, more than any other race, the English are intrigued by their educational institutions.

## ...and moreover

### PHILIP HOWARD

**D**ate rape is the crime of the year, with a sequence of sensational trials in the States, and a poll organised by the Cambridge University students' union suggesting that one in five female students at British universities has been the victim of rape or attempted rape. Even allowing for the gross inaccuracy of polls, the figures are horrendous.

Date rape means sexual intercourse forced by a person with whom the victim has a social engagement. It was first recorded in the University of Georgia *Red and Black* in May 1983. "But, according to some local rape counsellors, 'date rape' may be a hidden problem that goes on with little notice but leaves frustrated, silent victims." The phrase has a trendy brevity and half rhyme that make it irresistible to the media. But it begs a lot of questions. Date and rape are two volatile wordy words. One woman's rape is another man's jolly Friday night out, alas. There are many cases of rape that are evil assault and battery. There are cases that are more ambiguous, as we have seen in the courts.

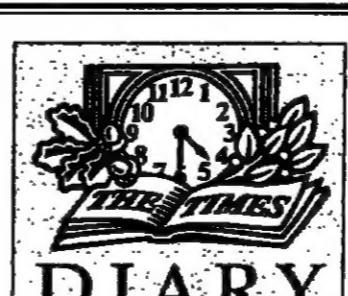
Date rape was less common before the invention of the motor car, and before the institution of unchaperoned dating. Seduction is another story. But the matter of sex is notoriously subjective, and inaccessible to lawyers. Novelists and poets are better at the mystery. Judge James Horton, in a memorandum granting a new trial in the Scottsboro case on

## Silence of the readers

HAVING taken up his post as the new director of the Press Complaints Commission only last week, Mark Bolland was anticipating something of a baptism by fire. With the Queen making clear her displeasure at the publication of the photographs of the Duchess of York with John Bryan, the commission had braced itself for one of the biggest rows in its short history.

Bolland, eager to be seen to cope with his first crisis, ordered staff to arrive at their desks in Salisbury Square, off Fleet Street, in central London, at the crack of dawn while the rest of the country was still waking up to digest the pictures over their breakfast tables. The new boss briefed his 14-strong staff on how to handle the anticipated deluge of calls and faxes from members of the public appalled at the hounding of the Duchess of York. Lord McGregor of Durrus, the commission chairman, joined the dawn start once he had fought his way through the army of television cameras camped outside his house in a quiet Hampstead street.

Someday the storm never materialised. As Bolland and his team of 14 sat facing the battery of telephones in their plush offices, they waited — and waited and waited. The phones just did not ring. The silence was remarkable," says Bolland, who has enjoyed a meteoric rise at the commission. He was brought in last year as executive assistant to McGregor, became assistant director and then deputy before taking over the top slot last week. Bolland says: "In the whole of Thursday we had only one complaint. When the story broke about the marriage of the Princess of Wales we had 400 telephone



Civil List by £50,000. The Queen and other members of the Royal Family, who are in receipt of parliamentary grants, are desirous that reductions of these grants should be made during this time of national crisis."

## Smoke storm

THE prospect of Sir Walter Raleigh, that paragon of Elizabethan gallantry, being stripped of his knighthood for introducing the evil weed to the British Isles, has produced a spirited defence in Raleigh's Devon birthplace.

Anti-smoking campaigners have been collecting signatures for a pe-



tion to be submitted to the Queen demanding the old sea-dog be retrospectively reduced to plain Walt. Now villagers in East Budleigh, where the local pub is named after him, have mounted their own petition to be presented to Buckingham Palace next month. Eddie Truman, the local landlord, says: "We already have more than 1,000 signatures which shows the depth of local feeling on this. Sir Walter has suffered enough — he lost his head, we don't see why he should lose his title as well."

## Talking heads

NEWS of what is already being described as the "alternative Tory party conference" will surely dismay John Major and party managers who had hoped to keep the lid on the contentious European debate in Brighton next month. Unperturbed by the manoeuvrings to keep the highly critical Maastricht motions off the conference agenda, anti-federalists have decided to hold their own conference at which the contentious issues will be debated. Organised by the reinvigorated Bruges Group (honorary president Baroness Thatcher), speakers will include Tory MPs and such luminaries as Sir Alan Walters and Professor Patrick Minford.

The Reform club has been hired for the event on the Thursday before the party faithful gather in Brighton and the constituencies which submitted the critical motions will be able to attend. Patrick Robertson, secretary of the group whose fortunes have been revived since Maastricht, says: "Of course the timing is deliberate. Real debate on Europe will be stifled at the Tory party conference. We are providing an alternative forum."

• Israeli police were summoned to the scene of a grisly murder near Tel Aviv this week when a skeleton with a knife in its chest was unearthed. The area was cordoned off, experts summoned and heads were seen to shake gravely. The ferocity of the crime shocked even the most hard-bitten detectives. Yet within hours the case was closed. "The officers on the scene reached the conclusion that finding suspects was unlikely," said an Israeli police spokesman. A cover-up at the highest level? Mossad involved? Not at all. The victim had been murdered during the Middle Bronze Age, some 3,700 years ago.



## CLEANING UP BRAZIL

The rebirth of democracy in Latin America over the past decade has been one of the brightest and least recognised triumphs of human rights. As the continent's leading power, Brazil should be in the forefront of this new Latin order. For that it needs a government and president that exemplify clean politics. Yet its development has been crippled by instability and economic mismanagement. In the past 40 years, it has suffered 21 years of authoritarian military rule. Its stuttering democracy has been marked by corruption, social malaise, the self-serving manoeuvres of an isolated ruling clique. In all that time only one elected president has been able to complete his term.

The likely impeachment proceedings next week against President Collor will be a severe test of the country's new constitutional structure. It will continue an unhappy history of democratic failure that can only destroy people's confidence in the ability of their government to tackle the country's huge problems. The charges against Mr Collor are that he enriched himself and his family with several million dollars from funds deposited in his account by Paulo Cesar Faria, his 1989 campaign manager.

The president has vigorously denied wrongdoing but his credibility is now stretched so thin that most of his cabinet, including the foreign minister, are reported to be on the point of resignation. The president does not command a majority in the legislature. Although he has enough support to survive an impeachment vote, which requires the votes of two thirds of the chamber of deputies and senate, he could not govern after that. The opposition would not give him even tacit support.

Impeachment proceedings would be a traumatic baring of the soul even for an older and healthier democracy. They would paralyse the government of Brazil at a time when confident and decisive leadership is needed to deal with an economy in its 29th month of recession, an inflation rate of 23 per cent a month, unemployment at 16 per cent and

complex debt renegotiation at hand. Most leading newspapers and politicians are now urging the president to step down. There is little enthusiasm for Itamar Franco, the vice-president, who suffers from a similar image to that of Dan Quayle. But if the key figure in the government, Marcelo Marques Moraes, the economics minister, can be persuaded to stay on, a relatively smooth transition could be effected.

Mr Collor shows no inclination to quit. A strong-willed and hot-tempered man, he has insisted he will serve out his term until 1995. His recent attempt to rally the population behind him by urging them to don the national colours and come out on the streets went disastrously wrong. Instead the crowds were black and demanded his resignation. So far, however, the military has stood behind him.

Brazil's tragedy is that President Collor was its most promising leader for years. He is 43, well-educated and vigorous, and has a capacity to take on such big challenges as his successful handling of the Rio world environmental conference this year. But the glow from that meeting has faded. Now there is growing disillusion with the bickering in Brasilia. So far the military have shown no stomach to meddle again in politics, and there is no imminent danger of a coup. That might change if the president remained in office, limping through his term without the political support to effect any change of the credibility to rally ordinary Brazilians.

Until publication of the congressional report on the impeachment, the extent of any alleged involvement in corruption cannot be gauged. It is said, as it was of Nixon, that there is "no smoking gun". Mr Collor's supporters object to what they see as a political lynching. But if the charges are proved, the scale of wrongdoing makes continuation in office impossible, even in a country where backhand deals are a normal fact of life. Mr Collor has already lost the confidence of his country. He would serve Brazil best by standing down now.

## SUICIDAL PARADOX

At the heart of yesterday's Home Office report on prison suicide is a paradox. Society wears two faces towards the criminal, the harsh and the humane, faces worn by the police and public, by the judiciary, and above all by the staff of the prison service. The report the humane face of officialdom towards prison suicide. But it is society wearing its other face which provides the prison with the cells it "Good riddance and serve him right".

This official two-mindedness is not just over sentencing. What most annoys an inner-city policeman is having to catch and arrest again some young offender he thought he put away two nights ago, but whom the courts promptly let out on bail. What disturbs the sleep of a juvenile magistrate, one of those who release such culprits on bail, is the thought of the high suicide rate among young offenders remanded in custody.

It is rising. The bullying, humiliation and loneliness which usually precede a suicide in custody, and the often inhumane conditions in overcrowded and inefficiently staffed remand centres, make this hardly surprising. In 1987, in response to public alarm, Home Office policy on suicide was tightened up. Every institution now has a suicide prevention management group. All such groups include a member of the Samaritans from outside the prison. Some even have a prisoner in the group.

But that year also recorded a quantum leap in the rate of prison suicide, for reasons unclear. Home Office policy is no longer to regard suicide as primarily a medical problem. Though most suicides are "depressed", the depression is now seen not as mental illness but as a normal reaction to an unpleasant situation. It is no longer left only to doctors to treat. What prisoners need above all is somebody to talk to, who seems to care. Each prisoner is to be allotted one particular prison officer, with whom he can build a personal relationship. Samaritan work in prisons is expanding fast, with warm Home Office encouragement.

Half the criminal-justice and penal system is trying to make sure prison hurts, to mark society's abhorrence of the crime and its sympathy for the victim. The other half is trying to stop it hurting, so prisoners are no longer tempted to kill themselves. As long as society demands both aims at once, it cannot blame the system for failing to satisfy it on either.

## CRIME BUILT IN

A third of a century after Jane Jacobs first defined the concept of "defensible space", architects appear to remain unconvinced that their work has any link with crime. Contrasting evidence this week from Lancashire and Sussex shows how disastrous has been this neglect. In Wigan, vandalised and crime-ridden estates are having to be policed by private security firms, such as the fear of crime induced by modern housing designs. In Sussex, on the other hand, a police-sponsored "secure by design" initiative has proved a success, with no burglaries reported from the estates concerned. In some cases no more than £300 was required to make ordinary houses safe from burglary.

Ms Jacobs's thesis was that every aspect of urban design was part and parcel of the informal policing of cities. Traditional streets offered gradations of privacy, from public street to pavement to front garden to steps and doorways to front windows. This meant that city inhabitants could exercise subtle but constant supervision over their environments. Both in moving about their property and in running errands and visiting friends, they acted as unofficial "bobbies on the beat". They needed no neighbourhood watch scheme as the neighbourhood was automatically monitored by virtue of its layout.

But these were traditional grid-block streets. The high rises and deck-access blocks of the 1960s and 1970s defy such policing. Almost instantly, they became abused and crime-ridden. Today they are the most lasting and costly of disasters of postwar planning, a blot on the reputation of the

architectural profession which its lack of remote leaves uncleaned. Recent crime research suggests that, however, much money is poured into double locks and secure toys and private guards, such estates are inherently friendly to the criminal. Their spaces are "indefensible". They must one day be demolished and replaced by less hostile layouts based on the traditional street. Private space must be respected, yet used to overlook public space.

Recent experience in Liverpool has shown that three-storey deck-access blocks surrounded by wasteland can be cheaply converted to single terraced houses with small gardens. This has proved popular with residents and appears to deter crime. Many of these designs have been the result of residents demanding to have their say against the planning and architectural professionals, the latter long used to having things their own way. The outcome may not be to the taste of the architects — a plethora of vernacular and Tudorbethan designs — but professions that lose the confidence of the public must live with the consequences.

Property crime is not a constant in any community — it is a function of a variety of social and economic factors. But it is also a function of the ease with which burglary can be perpetrated and of the assurance of escape. Both are plainly related to the design of houses and the planning of neighbourhoods. The tragedy is that, 30 years after Jane Jacobs wrote her defiance of modern architecture, this message should have still to be repeated.

## Timetable for the bomb enquiries

From Sir John May

Sir, May I seek to clear up misunderstandings which have arisen about my intentions for the future conduct of the Maguire and the Guildford and Woolwich enquiries (letters, August 6, 8, 15).

The report of a small independent scientific committee on various points which arose during the public hearings on the Maguire case last September and October has reached me today. I shall hold public hearings from September 14, with the intention of delivering a final report to ministers in October.

In the case of the Guildford and Woolwich enquiry, I cannot hold

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pembridge Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Sympathetic treatment for drug and drink addiction

From Professor Emeritus Ivor H. Mills

Sir, One can only congratulate and be grateful for the Princess of Wales and her approach to the problems of people caught up in the use and abuse of drugs (report, August 18). There is no doubt that one gains insight by talking to the people involved and one quickly comes to realise that many of them have excellent qualities but have become trapped by the mechanisms at work

themselves to the limit at work — far from the weak and useless creatures they are often painted as being. They found by chance that alcohol relieved tension and enabled them to work even harder.

In the same way, bulimic anorexics find that alcohol prevents the compulsive drive to binge on carbohydrate. In both groups the amount of alcohol needed may escalate until alcoholism supervenes. The same has been described by a number of first-class actors and actresses.

Cocaine gets people hooked in a different way, by acting directly on the reward centre of the brain. Even the first dose makes them crave to have it again.

It is becoming clear that drug taking is associated with three mechanisms in the brain. One is the mechanism of morphine addiction, which can be reproduced by endorphin (the brain's "morphine") which is released during "binging". The second is compulsive behaviour which drives the person relentlessly even without addiction. The third is stimulation of the reward centre of the brain.

The first we believe we understand a lot about. The second we are beginning to have some insight into and have some success with drug therapy. The third, which may overlap one of the other two, is perhaps the most difficult to understand and does not yet look to have an easy, effective treatment.

As the princess said, we still need more research — and, in the meantime, more understanding of the

people trapped by the brain mechanisms.

Yours faithfully,  
IVOR H. MILLS,  
Douglas House,  
Addenbrooke's Hospital,  
Trumpington Road, Cambridge.

From Canon Nicholas Frayling,  
Rector of Liverpool

Sir, The speech of the Princess of Wales could not be more timely. Increasing concern about hard drugs is masking the extent of alcohol abuse, especially among young people.

In a recent informal survey of prisoners in police cells in Liverpool, I discovered that most had been drinking heavily just before their arrest — in one case 17 pints of lager. In no case was drink mentioned in court, nor did it figure in the charges. The statistics are, therefore, misleading — they are, so to speak, "dried-out" in the judicial process.

The conversion of public houses — and not only in cities — into what are, in effect, drinking clubs for young people, is partly to blame, but the underlying reasons are more complex. Macho behaviour and frequent drunkenness, with attendant anti-social behaviour and sickening violence, are no longer confined to inner cities and outer-lying estates — they know no social boundaries.

Young people do not feel valued, and appear to have little hope for the future. We ignore them at our peril. Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS FRAYLING,  
Liverpool Parish Church,  
Old Churchyard, Liverpool 2.

### What juries should know of a defendant's convictions

From Mr K. W. Lidstone

Sir, Mr Adam Clapham (letter, August 17), drawing on his own experience of jury service, supports the view that the jury cannot be trusted to deal with evidence as to previous bad character without the kind of expert guidance that is available to their continental counterparts, where juries retire with the lay jury.

I hope to produce a draft report for my colleagues on the royal commission in the early part of 1993. This draft will not be for publication, although I intend to send a copy to ministers for information. When I have completed my full report on the Guildford and Woolwich cases, I shall submit this formally to ministers and I expect it to be published.

That I have ultimately had to adopt this course of action is due largely to the delay that has occurred in the prosecution of the Surrey police officers.

Yours sincerely,

J. D. MAY,  
Whittington House,  
19 Alfred Place, WC1.  
August 21.

### ITN in Bosnia

From the Chief Executive of ITN

Sir, Three of our staff have been wounded covering the conflict in the former Yugoslavia and recently a colleague from ABC was killed. This has been the most dangerous war for many years for the journalists and television crews reporting it. It takes courage and dedication to bring out the truth of what is happening, whether in Sarajevo or in the Srebrenica detention camps.

It was therefore unhelpful for *The Times* to publish a cartoon today depicting an ITN cameraman dressed in combat gear, carrying ammunition and using his camera as a gun, with an associated comment that in Bosnia "the opinion now is that all reporters are anti-Serb". If this gained any currency in the conflict area, it would only serve to increase the risk to our staff.

ITN relies on its reputation for objectivity and impartiality in all such situations, and we have reported from all sides of the battle-lines in what was Yugoslavia. ITN's reports have won respect around the world. In that context, I am sure your readers would have seen Peter Millar's article at best untimely.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT PHILLIPS,  
Chief Executive,  
Independent Television News Ltd,  
200 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.  
August 21.

### Cost of shooting grouse

From the Secretary of the British Field Sports Society, Scotland

Sir, Ronald Faux ("Grouse await twelfth as clay substitutes draw pre-season fire", report, August 10) states that while grouse shooting may be less expensive per brace this year "other costs ensure that a day on the moors remains a preserve of the well-heeled enthusiasts". He quotes figures given by Holland and Holland which are very misleading.

An excellent day's grouse shooting can cost less than £40 a brace. Shooting is, unfortunately, often more expensive in Scotland than in England because of the extra burden of rates on sporting land north of the border.

A new Aya Spanish bolt-action shotgun can be purchased for around £700 and new English shotguns can be had for well under £10,000. Good second-hand English shotguns are less than £1,000. Gun security carriages start at around £60+VAT, cartridges £90 per 100. A tweed shooting suit if such a thing is necessary, can be acquired for far less than £495 and as for outer jackets being £200, wax jackets can be found for as little as £20 and excellent quality ones for £40-£60.

Membership of the British Field Sports Society will give the sportsman or woman £21m third-party and £25,000 permanent disability insurance for £20 a year, a fifth of the quoted figure, and that will cover all field sports activities.

Grouse shooting is not just the "preserve of the well-heeled".  
Yours faithfully,  
JAMIE HEPBURN-WRIGHT,  
Secretary, British Field  
Sports Society, Scotland.  
Green Burns, Coupar Angus,  
Blairgowrie, Perthshire.  
August 18.

"unnatural that these options should be significantly supported by the former sovereign's presence in the country".

This blatant contradiction on the part of the regime indicates that, despite paying lip service to the democratic process, President Illescu is doing everything in his power to stack the cards in his favour and guarantee his regime's return to power.

King Michael, who was forced to abdicate at gunpoint in 1947, is still seen as the guarantor of national and social reconciliation and the symbol of unity and arbitration. His return to the throne is drawing nearer each day as the regime of President Illescu and the ill-founded republic draw to their close.

Yours etc.,  
ANTHONY J. BAILEY,  
Traveler's Club, Pall Mall, SW1.  
August 14.

bring enormous joy to their friends and to those who care for them and for whom they care.

This society believes that informed consent means information should be provided to prospective parents on the quality of life of those affected by disabilities, not just on the disability itself or on the apparent cost of caring.

Yours sincerely,  
WILLIAM LEARMONT  
(Chairman, Scottish Society for the  
Mentally Handicapped),  
13 Elmbank Street,  
Glasgow 2.

From the Very Reverend Father Peter D. McGuire

Sir, What a strange society we are. Just as we are encouraged to condemn all involved in "ethnic cleansing" we are expected to welcome an improved system of ante-natal screening which in reality amounts to nothing more than "disability cleansing".

Yours sincerely,  
PETER D. McGuire,  
9 Castle Hill, Eckington, Sheffield.

### Fleischmann altar

From Lady Catherine Bowes

Sir, The two photographs which you published on August 14, comparing Arthur Fleischmann's perspex altarpiece (temporarily housed in Westminster Cathedral) with Henry Moore's stone one in St Stephen Walbrook remind us that even the greatest of artists are occasionally rejected by the Establishment.

Fleischmann was an innovative Hungarian sculptor who chose a modern material when he moved from realism to his concept of modern art.

Your black and white photograph of his altar, lectern and candelabra cannot do justice to the planes of subtly coloured perspex from which they are constructed, nor to the light which forms an integral part of the work. It would be a shame if they were not to be found a place — perhaps in a simple modern setting?

Yours faithfully,  
CATHERINE BOWES,  
Flat D, 14 Sloane Court East, SW3.

### Evasive action

From Mr Christopher Wigley

Sir, I feel that you have let us down by publishing your table giving details of "ministers' holiday retreats" so late in the year (illustration, August 19).

Even though this year late holiday bookings have been a significant feature, the main booking period was months ago. How can the public avoid the possibility of meeting a British politician in holiday mood when your exposé is published well into the parliamentary recess?

I remain yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER WIGLEY,  
Rushall, 22 Burford Crescent,  
Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Weekend Money letters, page 20  
Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

## COURT CIRCULAR

**BALMORAL CASTLE**  
August 21: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Field Marshal the Lord Bramall, KG (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London) at the Funeral of the Baroness Phillips, formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, which was held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster, at noon today.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by the Lord Digby (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Dorset) at the Funeral of Colonel Sir Joseph Weld, formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, which was held in St Mary's Church, Lulworth Castle, this morning.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
August 21: The Prince and Prin of Wales were represented by Mr David Landale at the Funeral of Colonel Sir Joseph Weld, formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Dorset, which was held in St Mary's Church, Lulworth Castle, this morning.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
August 21: The Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Mrs Euan McCorquodale (late in Woking) at the Funeral of Baroness Phillips, formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, which was held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster, at noon today.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr B.R.M. Berryman and Miss J.E. Crooks**  
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs Trevor Berryman, of Penzance, Cornwall, and Julia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Crooks, of Tiverton, Devon.

**Mr J.E. Cordeux and Miss M.B. Jeff**  
The engagement is announced between James Edward, son of Dr and Mrs William Cordeux, of Botesdale, Dissa, Norfolk, and Mary Belinda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Nowell Jeff, of Farnborough, Hampshire.

**Mr C.S. Dodd and Miss V.A. Cunningham**  
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mrs Jean Dodd and the late Mr Frank Dodd, of Rustington, West Sussex, and Veronica, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Cunningham, of Cambridge.

**Mr M.G. Hillman and Miss S.C. Dovey**  
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Hillman, of Bradwell, Norfolk, and Sarah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W.J.H. Dovey, of Sedgley, West Midlands. The wedding will take place on August 28, 1992.

**Mr A.C. Hull and Miss V. Caro**  
The engagement is announced in London, between Frederick, elder son of Dr and Mrs Paul Jaffe, of Scarsdale, New York, and Valerie, younger daughter of Mrs Phyllis Caro and the late Mr Ralph Caro.

**Mr F. Jaffe and Miss V. Caro**  
The engagement is announced in London, between Frederick, elder son of Dr and Mrs Paul Jaffe, of Scarsdale, New York, and Valerie, younger daughter of Mrs Phyllis Caro and the late Mr Ralph Caro.

**Mr A.M. Jones and Mrs R.D.N. Brown**  
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Jones, of Headingley, Leeds, and Rachel, only daughter of Professor and Mrs Neville Brown, of Compton, Wolverhampton.

**Mr K.C.B. Stevens and Miss J.B.M. Pitt Miller**  
The engagement is announced between Karl, only son of Mr Michael Stevens, of Swallowfield, Berkshire, and Mrs Josephine Stevens, of Tamworth, Somerseth, and Jocelyn, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Stanley B. Pitt Miller, of Ashtead, Surrey.



Silhouetted: Lisa Purslow helping in restoration work at Westminster Abbey as a youth volunteer member of Cathedral Camps, an organisation which gives young people the chance to work together in Britain's cathedrals

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BIRTHS

**ASTOR** - On August 21st, to Elizabeth and John Astor, a daughter, Lila.

**CAUCH** - On August 20th, to Anne unic Somerset and Matthew, a daughter.

**CARR** - On August 14th, 1992, to Sean, wife Karen, and Robert, a son, Jack.

**DOMOGHUE** - On August 19th, to Sarah and Keith, a daughter, Polly. Frances, a sister.

**FISCHER** - On Tuesday August 4th, 1992, to Sophie (née Edward) and David, a daughter, Anna, a sister to Amabel, a sister for Julia.

**GALLOWAY** - On August 20th, to Emma (née James) and Andrew, a daughter, Mary.

**HAMMEL** - On August 18th, 1992, to Kate (née Hayden) and Nicholas, a son, James Louis, a brother to Oliver and Elmer.

**HILL** - On August 17th, to Barbara and Ian, a son, Andrew, a brother.

**HOLDEN** - On July 31st, to Patricia (née Mordant) Crook and Richard, a son, Edward, a brother to James, a sister to Amabel, a sister for Julia.

**HORNIG** - On August 18th, 1992, to Kate (née Hayden) and Nicholas, a son, James Louis, a brother to Oliver and Elmer.

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## OBITUARIES

## DAVID PATON

Canon David Paton, economist and missionary, died on July 18 aged 78. He was born on September 9, 1913.

DAVID Macdonald Paton inherited from his father a passion for Christian unity and mission; the two always went together in his mind. But his life coincided with a period when the coherence and confidence of the missionary and ecumenical movement's pioneering days — with dreams of One World and One Church — ran up against the emotional strength of nationalism and denominationalism. He bore the pain.

He was the son of Dr William Paton, an English Presbyterian minister and missionary, who was the col-



league of Temple Bell and Oldham in the great British contribution to what became the World Council of Churches.

David Paton was educated at Repton and always had a surprisingly good relationship with Geoffrey Fisher, his headmaster and later his archbishop.

After Oxford he worked for the Student Christian Movement in Birmingham and, following his ordination, went to China as a missionary in 1940. He had hoped for a life like his father's; instead he experienced the war and then

the expulsion of all missionaries by the communists.

Returning to England, he served as Vicar of Yardley Wood, Birmingham, and published *Christian Missions and the Judgment of God* (1953). He had become convinced that the Christian mission everywhere had to cut its links with colonial and commercial penetration by the West. The prophetic eloquence of that book explained his appointment in 1956 as editor of the SCM Press Britain's leading theological publishing house, but he was neither a scholar nor an administrator by temperament and was happier when called to serve on the national staff of the Church of England for ten years from 1959, as secretary of the council for ecumenical co-operation which became the Missionary and Ecumenical Council.

Enthusiasm for reunion with the Free Churches was then at its height, and he was saddened by the failure to secure adequate Anglican support for "organic" union. In all this he was close to Archbishop Michael Ramsey.

In 1970 Paton moved to Gloucester. He continued to serve the missionary and ecumenical movements especially as chairman of the church's China study project and as editor of the report of the 1976 assembly of the World Council of Churches. He was honoured for that and as a chaplain to the Queen, as an honorary canon of Canterbury.

He was rector of the ancient church of St Mary de Crypt until 1981 and exercised a rare gift for pastoral friendships, comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable. One of his pleasures was the upkeep of supportive friendships with Chinese Christians.

After his retirement he maintained many of his interests, and kept his vision in spite of his disappointments. He is survived by his wife Alison and their three sons.

## GIORGIO PERLASCA

Giorgio Perlasca, Italian livestock agent and businessman who saved the lives of thousands of Hungarian Jews during the second world war, died at his home in Padua on August 15 aged 82. He was born in Como, northern Italy, on January 31, 1910.

IT WAS his record as an enthusiastic fascist and a fighter for Franco in the Spanish Civil War, together with his sense of humanity and bravery, that enabled Giorgio Perlasca to rescue him in Budapest, at least 5,000 Jews from deportation to Hitler's gas chambers between 1944 and 1945.

Like the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, Perlasca provided Jews who were about to be deported with false papers to enable them to escape from Nazi persecution and find refuge in a neutral country. Unlike Wallenberg, he was not a real diplomat, and while Wallenberg's fame has been magnified by his mysterious disappearance in Soviet custody, Perlasca returned to a life of obscurity after the war.

Giorgio Perlasca was born into a middle-class Catholic family in Como. A youthful admirer of Mussolini, he served as a volunteer with Italian forces in Abyssinia before fighting for Franco in the Spanish Civil War. But the introduction of racial laws in Italy and the alliance with Hitler's Germany destroyed the last residues of his fast-waning admiration for the Italian dictator. Having been called up by the Italian army in 1938, he soon found himself at odds with his superior officers, and was discharged after a couple of months.

Perlasca then devoted his energy to cattle trading, working for a while in Yugoslavia and subsequently in Hungary. After the fall of Mussolini in July 1943, Perlasca was in-



terred as an enemy alien in camp near the Austrian border but three months later escaped and returned to Budapest. There he was able to use his services in the Spanish Civil War to claim the protection of the Spanish embassy in Budapest. He returned the favour by helping the embassy with its programme of assistance to Hungarian Jews.

Spain, along with other neutral states such as Sweden, Switzerland, Portugal and the Vatican, was active in protecting Jews claiming any link to a neutral country. They were provided with refuge in safe houses and papers so that they could leave Hungary.

Such efforts were much needed. Of the 825,000 people considered to be Jews living on Hungarian territory,

Perlasca has described how the representatives of the neutral countries, including himself and Wallenberg, would visit the Budapest railway station to attempt an 11th-hour rescue of those about to be deported.

On one occasion, Perlasca said, he and Wallenberg succeeded in snatching two 12-year-old boys, identical twins, from no less a person than Adolf Eichmann. Perlasca dragged them out of a queue of deportees and bundled them into the Spanish embassy car.

The fake Spanish consul "Jorge" Perlasca succeeded in representing his adoptive country in Budapest for six weeks until January 16, 1945, when Soviet troops entered the city. After the last embassy car broke down, Perlasca would march through the streets of Budapest accompanied by a policeman carrying the Spanish flag.

After the war Perlasca lived in almost total obscurity until a group of Holocaust survivors succeeded in tracking him down to his home in Padua in 1989. Following this he was honoured by Israel and received official recognition for his actions in the United States, Spain and Hungary.

When he visited Jerusalem to receive the tribute of the Israeli government a woman approached him and presented him with a single rose. With it was a note reading: "You saved two members of my family and with them my faith in human kind, a faith which was disappearing."

Perlasca himself gave a modest explanation of his war-time choices. "I could not bear the sight of people being branded like animals. I could not bear to see children being killed. I think it was this, I don't think I was a hero. I saw people being killed and simply I could not bear it. I had the chance to act and I acted. Anyone would have done the same thing in my place."

## APPRECIATIONS

## Lord Cheshire

DESPITE failing health and many prior commitments, Leonard Cheshire (obituary, August 3) tried hard at various high levels to persuade British authorities appropriately to commemorate the service and sacrifice of aircrew in the Old Dominions in the second world war.

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After the departure of the Spanish envoy to Budapest in November 1944, Perlasca simply stepped into his shoes and, with the aid of an embassy seal which had been left behind, passed himself off as the new Spanish consul in order to continue providing protection to Jewish refugees. It was a miracle that the impostor was not unmasked, but the impossibility of direct communication between Budapest and Madrid was certainly an advantage.

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1945 almost half of Bomber Command's pilots came from Australia, Canada and New Zealand. Had this not been so, I do not see how we could have survived, let alone finally have brought to an end Hitler's mad and terrible pursuit."

Leonard Cheshire never ceased to try and find ways of giving concrete expression to the debt he felt Britain owed to the entire Commonwealth, especially Australia. His efforts to persuade trustees of St Clement Danes (RAF) Church and the Air Force Board to erect suitable plaques recording the sacrifice of the young Dominion aircrew were not successful.

In Leonard Cheshire's view, such casualties could have been halved if British governments had not initially opposed the manufacture of the Mosquito aircraft.

But there was no shortage of Dominion aircrew. In 1988 Leonard Cheshire wrote "Britain never stood alone. From the word go, the Commonwealth was there too... By

Malcolm Hardwick

## John Cage

John Cage (obituary, August 14) was a close friend and colleague of the late Marcel Duchamp (1887-1969) and his wife Mrs Teeny Duchamp. One of their many points of interest was the game of chess in which Marcel Duchamp excelled. Mr Cage orchestrated the highly evocative work entitled "Reunion" (1968) and which was performed at the Ryerson Theatre, Toronto. The chess board was connected to an electronic amplification system which registered sounds when each move was made on the board. Mr Cage played Mr Duchamp.

One of John Cage's last visits to this country was in February 1991 to attend as guest of honour, along with Teeny Duchamp, the highly successful day given in "Art and Chess" held at the Tate Gallery, London. Indeed, their presence guaranteed success with Mr Cage occupying centre stage in the latter part of the day during the forum debate.

He was very quiet of voice and unassuming and used words in a succinct and often humorous way.

Both guests of honour were later feted with dinner at the Chelsea Arts club that concluded the day's symposium.

Barry Martin

## Borislav Pekic

MAY I draw your attention to some errors in your obituary of Borislav Pekic (July 9).

As you say, Pekic was born in Montenegro and his father was a Montenegrin, but he always considered himself a Serbian writer. He studied psychology at the University of Belgrade after his release from prison in 1953 (not in 1950 as you claim), but never graduated in it. He was arrested in

1948, when he was only eighteen, and still a pupil at his Belgrade secondary school.

Mr Pekic lived in London from 1971 (not 1970), but never thought of his London years as the years spent "in exile".

He was never banished from his country and he continued to publish and gain awards for his books in Yugoslavia throughout these years.

Dusan Pavacic,  
School of Slavonic Studies  
University of London.

## H. D. West

"Dick" Westlake (obituary, August 8) — he was never "Henry" to his friends — had two very difficult tasks. Not only did he succeed T. B. L. Webster at Manchester, but whatever plans he had for promoting classics there were blighted at the outset because the two departments of Greek and Latin were separate entities and the occupant of the Hulme Chair of Latin, an older man, had a very dominating personality. The

friendliest meetings I recollect between the Helleneis and Latinists took place at the Westlake home, as we watched the Varsity rugby match!

Professor Westlake fought a successful fight against an impediment of speech which made public occasions hard for him. His family life was very dear to him, and his wife, Molly, who survives him, gave him tremendous support, and was much liked in the city and the university.

Professor H.H. Husley

## BARBARA MORGAN



Barbara Morgan's photograph of Martha Graham in *Every Soul is a Circus*

Graham and she spent the late 1920s developing her own expressive and very individual style, eventually establishing her own company. By 1930 she had choreographed her first major work, *Lamentations*, and this was followed the next year by

*Primitive Mysteries*. The latter ballet, with its intense religious feeling, was to inspire Barbara Morgan, who saw it almost by chance in New York. She became fascinated by its treatment of ritual in the American south west, and decided that photography could,

in conjunction with dance, after all be art.

The two women became lifelong friends, and Morgan's work with the troupe resulted in the 1941 book *Martha Graham: 16 Dances in Photographs*, which was to become

the centrepiece of both their careers. During the same period Morgan captured the images of many other modern American dancers, among them José Limón, Doris Humphrey, Paul Draper, Charles Weidman, Erick Hawkins and Merce Cunningham. Her dance photographs, she said, were never intended for publication or documentation; they were metaphors, created to catch the symbolic image that epitomized the dance or dancer.

In common with Graham, she believed that gesture could express profound emotional truths. Morgan's photographs, Martha Graham wrote in 1980, revealed "the inner landscape that is a dancer's world."

After 1945 Morgan largely abandoned her dance photography and turned to taking pictures of children, trees and plants, and creating evocative photomontages and light drawings.

"I thought the only way I could be true to my creative imagination," she wrote in the introduction to one of her later books, "was to work with photomontage. And as a mother concerned for the future, I felt the obligation to express the increasingly complex problems of our world with the hope of inspiring affirmative change."

The sentiments might have been high flown but the photographs remain impressive.

Barbara Morgan continued to exhibit her work frequently until the 1980s, and was an avid letter-writer. Her correspondence with William Carlos Williams, Margaret Mead, Joseph Campbell and Edward Weston — the latter was a strong influence on her early photography — is considered a rich historical source.

She was widowed in 1967 and is survived by her two sons.

and indecency, but they were stoutly defended by competent judges of many professions, as well as by *The Times* as the first serious attempt in this country since the Gothic period at a true relationship between sculpture and architecture, with the single exception of Alfred Stevens...

The same kind of criticism was applied to Epstein's group of "Day", which, with his "Night", decorates the base of London Transport headquarters, designed by Messrs Adams, Holden and Pearson. His work upon the scenes was often violent. The last 20 years brought him no respite, from the rumour that his work seemed to attract as a solitary tree attracts lightning. There was "Adam", carved from a block of Derbyshire alabaster, weighing three tons, and standing over 7ft high, which reached eventually £7,000. "Eve Homo" (the subject of recent controversy and still without a home), "Consummation Est", a giant reclining figure of Christ crucified, and "Lazarus", carved out of a block of Hopton Wood stone. His skill and ability to produce the startling and the stimulating showed no signs of waning, as was revealed when in April 1957, "Christ in Majesty", executed for Llandaff Cathedral, was shown for the first time: a towering 16ft figure cast in aluminium seen by the sculptor himself as his greatest act of faith, it indeed was a creation of tremendous power.

Making every allowance for the merits of the monumental works, their dignity and their force in execution, it is possible that Epstein's fame will rest upon his bronzes, particularly his portraits in bronze, which was shown at Kneeler's in 1930. As an executant he was at home in all materials, but he did not conceive so happily in stone as in bronze, in which he was most prolific...

## JOHN THOMPSON

John D. Thompson, an academic whose ideas revolutionised the financing and evaluation of health care in the United States and many other parts of the world, died of cardiopulmonary arrest at the Yale-New Haven hospital in Connecticut on August 13 aged 75. He was born in Franklin, Pennsylvania.

HEALTH care costs in the United States are notoriously high, but they might be even more exorbitant if it were not for the work of John Thompson and his Yale University colleague Robert Fetter. Starting in 1967, Thompson and Fetter developed a system known as diagnostic-related groups, or DRGs, which divided thousands of ailments and treatments into standard categories. These were then used to calculate and compare costs, lengths of hospital stay and treatment success.

Although the notion of it

had been adopted by some private insurance companies, with the state of New York, New Jersey and Maryland, making it mandatory. It also formed the basis for the recent health plan in Oregon, which would have been the nearest approach in the US to a universal health scheme if it had not been vetoed by the Bush administration.

John Thompson had been head of the division of health policy, resources and administration at Yale since 1974, having joined the faculty in 1956. He got there by an unusual route, training as a male nurse at the Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan and becoming head psychiatric nurse there after service as a chief warrant officer in the second world war.

Thompson then earned a bachelor's degree from City College in his spare time, and went on to get a master's degree in hospital administration from Yale.

He is survived by his wife,

## IRENE SCOULOURI

Irene Scoulouri, secretary and editor of The Huguenot Society from 1951 to 1987, died on London 31 July 1992 aged 85. She was born in Manchester on April 2, 1907.

Irene Scoulouri devoted practically all her life to the study of the Huguenots, especially those who came to England in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. She was the youngest child of François Scoulouri, a French citizen of Greek ancestry, who later took British nationality. Irene grew up in Notting Hill and was educated mainly privately at home. She went to the LSE to read history, where her interest in the Huguenots was developed. Her master's degree in 1936 was awarded for a thesis on the "Stranger" community in late sixteenth-century London. The following year she read a paper on the subject to the Huguenot Society and so began an association which remained until she was 80.

Society, to commemorate the tercentenary of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes under the title of *Huguenots in Britain and their French Background, 1550-1800*. Writing one paper herself.

She was a capable administrator with a strong commitment to the society's library in University College, London. Her courteous style, humour and way of life belonged to an earlier, perhaps gentler England, as did her dedication to the highest standards of scholarship. She will be remembered by many who attended meetings of the Huguenot Society, the London Topographical Society (her *Panoramic Views of London, 1660-6* was a model), the British Archaeological Association (for whose journal she was editor from 1951 to 1974) and latterly the Institute of Historical Research, which made her a fellow in 1988.

# Sales collapse forces Ford into shutdown

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

FORD is to close the plant that builds the Escort, Britain's bestselling car, for a week next month because of the big drop in sales caused by the recession.

The announcement comes just two days after the company told nearly 7,000 workers at the Dagenham plant in Essex that they would have to go on to short-time working because of the fall in orders.

Union leaders called into the Halewood factory on Merseyside yesterday morning to meet managers who said they could not maintain assembly line schedules in the face of the drastically weakened UK marketplace. The body and assembly plant, which employs about 6,000 workers, will be closed for a week on September 21 in addition to the single-shift working that was operating this week. The company expects to lose production of about 7,000 cars worth £56 million at showroom prices as it trims its output.

Union leaders, already fearing the worst after the Dagenham announcement, were sounding warnings yesterday that the nation's biggest motor manufacturer was heading for serious trouble unless there is a rapid revival in showroom sales. This week's cuts at Ford could also lead to a big shakeout of the industry, they said. Rover has put 2,000 workers on a shorter working week until next month to reduce output of Minis and Metros at its Longbridge plant.

Jimmy Airlie, Ford negotiator for the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, said: "This is developing into a crisis for the motor industry. How much more damage has to be inflicted before the government acts to help beleaguered car firms?"

Richie Rowlands, union convenor at Halewood, said: "This is very regrettable

because we are making the number one best-selling car at Halewood. This decision is symptomatic of the state of the economy."

The Escort is the bestselling car so far this year and the Fiesta, made at Dagenham, is in third sales place, yet total Ford sales have dropped in the first six months from 206,425 last year to 182,236. Halewood is scheduled to make 1,100 Escorts and Orion saloon cars a day, but output has been halved in the past week as sales in August, the biggest month of the year, failed to live up to expectations.

Next month, both of Ford's biggest British plants will be on short-time working as well as the Southampton plant that makes Transit vans. Workers are not expected to be laid off; however, they will lose bonuses of up to £30.

Ford's problems also extend to Aston Martin Lagonda, its troubled luxury car maker, which, it emerged yesterday, is cutting 65 jobs at its factory at Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire.

□ Railmers, Britain's leading jewellers group, is to shed more than 2,000 staff in Britain and America and close 330 shops after ploughing to a loss of £12 million. The group plans to close 66 H. Samuel and Ernest Jones stores that it also owns and will shut 150 stores in America, where it is the second largest jeweller.

□ Waterford, the Irish glassmaker that has been on short-time working for two years, is laying off 500 workers and is cutting pay across the company. There will be no pay review for 18 months and unions have been asked for five dispute-free years. Wedgwood, the English pottery company taken over in 1986, is not affected.

Lay-offs, page 15



Under fire: a photographer running through flames in Avery, northern California, where a bush fire forced at least 14,000 people from their homes and left the small town of Round Mountain in ruins. Evacuation continued yesterday from homes in the mountainous region, which has suffered a six-year drought

## Ulster sniper kills woman

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

AN English holidaymaker yesterday became the latest victim of Ulster violence when she was killed by sniper fire during an attack on a security patrol in Belfast.

The woman, 41, thought to have been married with several children, was named last night as Isobel Leyland. She was hit in the back by a single bullet when a joint army and police patrol in the city's Ardoyne area was fired on.

The shooting came as security forces braced themselves for a further outbreak of violence after a breakdown element in the Irish People's Liberation Organisation (IPL) admitted killing Jimmy Brown, one of its own top members, on Tuesday.

In the attack in which the woman died, one bullet struck a Land-Rover but none of the occupants was hurt, although a male civilian in his 60s was hit in the arm.

The woman had been due to return to her home in Rochdale, Greater Manchester, last night after visiting her elderly mother.

Police said gunmen took over a house in Jamaica Street and mounted their attack from a bedroom window from a range of 150 yards. They described the killing as a "completely indiscriminate, reckless and senseless act". There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the killing but the IRA was thought to be responsible.

Earlier this month they killed a soldier in an identical ambush.

The dead woman was the 56th person killed in Northern Ireland this year. Of the 2,999 killed in 23 years of violence, 2,061 were civilians, 436 regular army soldiers, 197 Ulster Defence Regiment soldiers, 188 members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and 97 members of the RUC Reserve.

□ In London a security alert caused commuter disruption for the second successive night when Blackfriars rail and underground stations were closed after a suspect package was discovered. The stations reopened within an hour.

## Afghans flee armed fanatics

Continued from page 1

bekistan in central Asia. This raises the question: where is Dr Mohammad Najibullah, the ousted president? He took shelter in a UN office in the capital when his government collapsed in April and he has not been seen since. It is possible that he has been split out of the country.

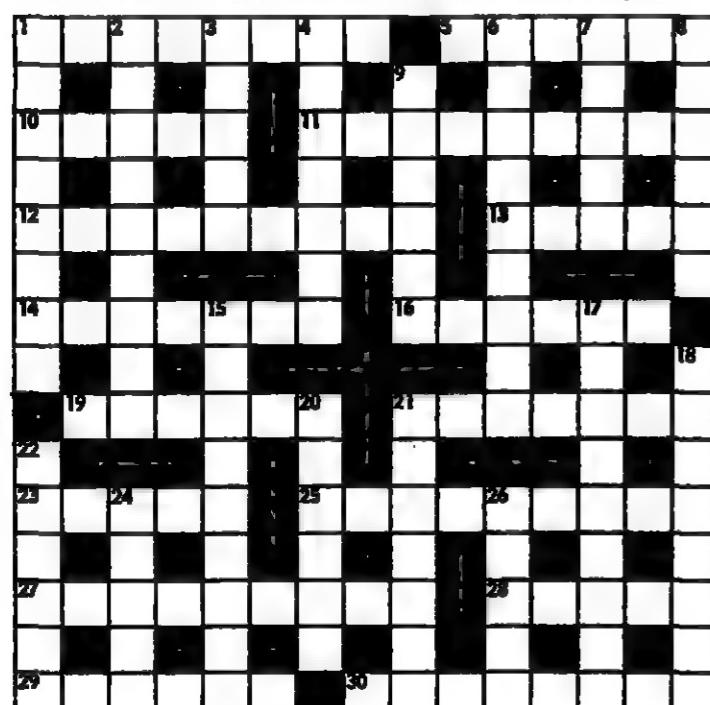
The city's fleeing citizens have nowhere to run because there is little left except rubble. The banks of the Kabul river east of the city are packed with people living in grass or canvas shelters, waiting for the fighting to end so that they can go home. Others have gone further east to the mud city of Jalalabad, where the markets are filled with produce they cannot afford. Many people are re-

duced to begging and about 1,000 people are crossing the border into Pakistan each day.

The Mujahidin gunmen who man the random checkpoints are mostly illiterate mountaineers who have spent their lives killing people either Russians or fellow Afghans of a rival ethnicity, tribe or religious group. Boys of five and six pack pistols.

These thugs are answerable to nobody. Travellers remove watches, hide their cash and hope to get through unscathed. The road from Kabul to Jalalabad is carved up between Mujahidin factions. Men who want a hit aim rifles at drivers to make them stop. This is hitch-hiking Afghan style. When they

### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,004



#### ACROSS

- Where paper stars from, as the adage has it (8).
- Current in a wide part of river (6).
- Nobody returned after vote — what a gas! (5).
- Boys like some legends (9).
- Drink extract maximum from tipster (4,5).
- Awfully 'ard and firm legislator (5).
- Content fits awkwardly into report (7).
- Cut semi-circle, I see (6).
- Pass on intelligence, taking spy chief's place (6).
- Republic needs soldier at a city in Italy (7).
- Able to move supply? Left with one article (5).
- Conventional and old-fashioned drawing instrument (3,6).
- Bun badly in main games, unfortunately (9).
- An American poet: a University study (5).
- Yorkshire opener soon appearing W�den, say (6).
- Sort of move that's highly enjoyable (2-6).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,998

SHOWALEG	LAUNCH
I F B N C N Y A	PIGOT INNKEEPER
NIFTY GRANDSLAM	A H M I H A O
G C S R R A R O L	CONCORDAT BILLY
STOPSMORT GUNCE	M J J I R A E
D E B A D A B O R N A I L	DEADABADORNAIL
H O O D L E S R O L L E R	H M M D G O
Q U E B L H	INMOSY DEMOLISH
P R O M P T C A S C A D E	L A C K A D A Y O P E N E R
O D M Y B L	H D S B L S
R I S E N R O C K N R O L L	S L I P O F T H E T O N G U E
G E S E L L O R S	G N R A O T A P
H O T P O T A T O B R A V E	A M A T I B O U N T I F Y
I U L T N L T N L T N L I E F A	E V E R G E E N R E E D Y

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Entries should be addressed to: The Times Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Solution to Puzzle No 19,003

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?

By Philip Howard

**MACROBIA**

a. To do with microbes

b. Microscopic

c. An early Christian heretic

**PROFF**

a. A fielder at cricket

b. The Hebrew letter F

c. To put in lawful possession

**QUARTAN**

a. A four-day fever

b. A liquid measure

c. A stay-sail

**EPIZUXIS**

a. A scene of cues

b. Emphatic verbal repetition

c. Zeus's drinking mug

Answers on page 12

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C London (within N & S Circ.)

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T 741

North East England

T 742

Scotland

T 744

Northern Ireland

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T 704

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Central Midlands

T 711

Lincs & Humberside

T 712

Gloucestershire & Cheshire

T 715

W & S Yorks & Dales

T 717

Central & Lake District

T 718

W Central Scotland

T 721

Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders

T 723

E Central Scotland

T 724

Glenplan & Highlands

T 724

Orkney & Shetland

T 725

Weather: Today will be fine at the following times today: 7am, 7.15am, 7.30am & 6pm

Temperature at midday yesterday: 25°C

feet, 1, min. & sun

Wind: 0-10 mph

Cloud: 0-100%

Rain: 0-10mm

Humidity: 0-100%

UV index: 0-10

Cloud cover: 0-100%





# Man and superbeast — no contest

Lynne Truss on the new orthodoxy that man's cleverness is as nought compared with the built-in advantages of animals



A BRIGHT green leaf-frog sits on a twig in an Argentinian forest, and blinks. It pauses, stock still. Possibly it is thinking what to do next, but then again, possibly it has no recollection of what it did last. Either way, it suddenly extends a long-fingered hand like a magician's and, without moving any other part of itself, starts to massage its head, face and body with the sort of intensity and dexterity (and blank faraway stare) usually associated with the professional masseur. Still expressionless and unmoving, it changes hands. Finally, its back legs contract and, down its back, massaging its shoulders. It is amazing. And it is all done without mirrors.

Why does the leaf-frog produce waxy, fatty stuff from a gland and then rub it all over its body, using all four limbs? Well, partly because it can. Surely. Most people would give their right arm to be able to do what the leaf-frog can do with its left leg. But the series *Walk on the Wildside* (BBC1), much as it has a light-hearted tone, would hardly support such a non-scientific explanation. In fact, this frog is moisturising itself. And the point (I think) is that unlike man, it can undergo a complete top-to-toe skin conditioning job without paying 30 quid an hour or learning Swedish.

*Walk on the Wildside* is presented by Simon King, a fresh-faced young man who (appropriately, this week, when the theme was personal cleanliness) always looks scrubbed and slightly damp, as though straight from a squash racket shower-room. Being the principal wildlife photographer on *Walk on the Wildside*, he is obliged to deliver his linking passages from a cramped deskroom filled with lenses and film cans — though whether this is a real room, or a set mocked up to resemble his normal habitat, is not clear.

The only thing that's obvious is that he is not terribly comfortable in it; which is again appropriate, because the impatience of man in his environment (contrasting with the encyclopaedia of nature) is the gist of *Walk on the Wildside*, as it is of most nature progs these days. To make the point thoroughly, he ought to flail about and knock things over.

But King's rather stoogey appearances aside, *Walk on the Wildside* is great viewing, authoritative but anecdotal, requiring of the viewer only three things: a

## TV REVIEW

preparedness to be amazed, a sense of humour, and an attention span roughly equivalent to that of the Argentinian leaf-frog. Every week there is some snippet that makes you exclaim "Gah!" and relate it to people next day — last week the sea bird that controls its temperature by (wait for it...) deliberately squinting guano down its legs and letting it dry. Gah!

This week, there was the giant gecko that repeatedly licks its adhesively sticky-out eyes, the hippo that secretes its own sun block, the sea snake that ties itself in twisting tumbling knots to knock the barnacles off, and the heron that combs its slime out of its feathers with a special attachment fitted (by nature) to its claws.

Call me touchy, however, but I do slightly resent the implicit dig at humankind in all this. The American land crab keeps its eyes in great shape by dunking them in special hairy, wet eye socks, whereas silly old Homo sapiens is obliged to shell out for Optrex. The heron has its built-in hairbrush, whereas humans buy implements made from tortoiseshell. The jay makes a point of disturbing an ant's nest, so that the angry ants will hose its feathers with formic acid and kill its life — whereas humans honestly wouldn't know where to start if they found themselves in a similar situation.

How well regulated the animal kingdom is, then, for cleanliness. Nasty, brash and short, I grant you, but in hygiene top of the list. The old proverb is true: it's an ill bird that fouls its own nest.

In *Walk on the Wildside*, we had only one example of an animal that doesn't keep itself clean — a screech owl from North America, which evidently found its own nest with such gusto it is scarcely able to budge for the heaps of owl droppings, rotting mice, ant eggs and fly larvae littering the place (I think I saw an old pizza box as well). Fortunately for our health, into the screech owl's life occasionally comes a blind snake (caught alive and kept in the nest for later eating), which by an extraordinary stroke of evolutionary luck happens to regard ant eggs and fly larvae as caviare on toast, and so forages through the filthy nest smacking its chops and thinking Christmas has come early.

What was not explained was whether the owl either notices or appreciates the difference when



Top of the hygiene list: frogs use mirror, hippos produce sunblock, herons use a hairbrush, owls have a live-in vacuum cleaner

this treasure of a reptile does the wildlife equivalent of running round with the Hoover, shouting "No trouble at all". Does anyone consider that the owl might resent this well-meant interference, having deliberately chosen to let things slide? I mean, whose nest is this, anyway? The trouble with a clean home as Joan Rivers once memorably pointed out, is that it is a rod for your own back. You wash dishes and change beds, and six months later you've got to do it all over again. An owl, being a wise old bird, would know this.

**L**eaving things slide and seeing what happens is not the usual response of man to nature, but last night's *Survival Special: Keepers of the Kingdom* (ITV) was an amazing record of what can happen when the vegetation of an African national park is allowed to take care of itself over a 30-year period.

The very opposite of *Walk on the Wildside*'s anecdotal approach, Simon Trevor's film was an epic study of the impact of elephants on a landscape, refuting the view that culling solves everything, and proving that vegetation and wildlife can come to their own arrangements.

*Keepers of the Kingdom* was also a vindication of a lifetime's work of (photographically speaking) shooting first and asking questions later. This nature reserve in Kenya was derelict bushland when Trevor started filming in it (about 1960); since then, it has been completely transformed into open plains of lush grass, having looked like Armageddon in between.

Elephants ate the trees (we watched them do it, circa 1961) and turned the place into a blasted battlefield — memorial jagged spikes, red wind, rock. But this was not necessarily a bad thing. Trevor upholds, because grass grew instead. Elephants died, too, in thousands; but this was not necessarily a bad thing either, since the

strongest survived. Plus, of course, their corpses were recycled where they fell, feeding lots of other animals, and so on; vital minerals back to the earth, et cetera. Nature knows best; you go it.

The contrast with the brutality of *Wildlife*, filmed in a South African national park, was made quite well, quite brutally, with horrific pictures of the animals herded by helicopter, trumpeting in panic.

Trevor asserted that elephants, like us, have a sense of death; and I believed him absolutely. Footage of a bull elephant knocking bones about (with the hollow "clack" of leather on willow) looked like plain old Armageddon in between.

Trevor told the story of a zoologist who took a cow elephant's jawbone back to her camp at night, and was visited by the elephant's son, who reclaimed the jaw, with a poignant display of feeling all the teeth.

"I think that elephants are meant to destroy trees, so that nutrients are returned to the soil more quickly,"

Trevor said, contentedly. Showing us views from fixed spots in the national park ("Here it is in 1972; and this is 1991") he made his point. This was no desert (as the culling proponents had warned); the transformation of the vegetation meant that water is now retained better. Plus, there is today a wider variety of species in the park. Plus, tourists can see further in grassland than they can in bush.

By all accounts, then, the elephant is a pachyderm hero, who even benefits the country's economy by bringing in hard currency. Plus, just another of nature's inadvertent miracles.

And just another excuse, of course, to bang you over the head with the new orthodoxy that all of

man's cleverness is as nought compared with the innate advantages of the heron, the elephant and the Argentinian leaf-frog — the latter of whom reaches the parts that other species cannot reach, even after half a dozen lagers.

L.T.

Record review: Bobby Brown, Ephraim Lewis, Airto Moreira, and a summer bouquet of recorded Elgar

## From US slick to British snooze

**H**e is 23 years old. He sold 12 million copies of his last album, *Don't Be Cruel*. And in recent weeks he has crossed the final frontier of celebrity by appearing with his new bride, Whitney Houston, on the cover of *Hello!*. But who is Bobby Brown? For all his fame and riches, he remains an oddly characterless individual. We know he was the child-star singer with New Edition, and apparently he used to run with a fairly rough crowd before he discovered God. But if he has a personality he has kept it well hidden.

His new album, *Bobby* (MCA MCD 10695), offers no fresh insights. Sleek, efficient and up to the minute, it harnesses a sophisticated combination of soul, pop and polite rap to the funky dance-floor beat known as new jack swing. With most of the writing and production duties shared between Teddy Riley (who produced much of Michael Jackson's *Dangerous*) and the celebrated LA and Babyface team responsible for Brown's last multi-platinum smash, nothing is left to chance.

But while his voice and the choice of songs are adequate, the album fails to dispel a lingering impression of Brown as a hard-working

but bellow Jackson/Prince/Hammer composite. At its best *Bobby* functions as a slick, upmarket party soundtrack, especially the heavy, synthesized thump of tracks such as "That's The Way Love Is" and the current single "Humpin' Around". But the gooey stuff about "winking and dining beautiful women" lacks resonance, and a lovey-dovey duet with Whitney called "Something In Common" is as trite as this sort of thing comes.

The difference between Brown's tightly sprung delivery and the laid-back sound of British soul crooner Ephraim Lewis could not be more pronounced. Born in Wolverhampton and resident in Sheffield, where he recorded his debut album, *Skin* (Elektra 7559-61318), Lewis deploys a voice which ranges from a sensual bass register to a graceful falsetto on material that ebbs and flows with the lazy, fascinating vigour of a deep-water current.

He pushes his luck at times, and when he oozes the line about "lying here beside you" in "Drowning in Your Eyes" it is difficult to decide whether he has been carried away by the passion of the



Tightly packaged: Bobby Brown delivers a party soundtrack

moment or is about to doze off. For Lewis, less is more, but the synth-dominated arrangements never lack for warmth, and the dynamics of a song like "Mortal Seed", with its measured pace and gradual build-up, maintain interest beyond initial expectations. The mysterious air of "Sad Song" with its jazz-reggae inflections is reminiscent of Sade. Whatever happened to her?

DAVID SINCLAIR

## Drumming up visions of Brazil

### JAZZ

**A**sides from the proprietor's old joke about the Japanese attack on Pearl Bailey, one of the most ancient rituals at Ronnie Scott's is the extended tambourine solo by Airto Moreira. Back for another residency, the Brazilian drum-master has been indulging himself yet again, this time at the helm of the incandescent fusion group Fourth World.

Moreira's frenetic set-piece conforms, on the surface at least, to the traditional image of the wild-eyed Latin timbalero. Yet there is a more introspective and spiritual dimension to his craft. The son of a faith-healer, he believes his music can perform a similarly therapeutic function: these are, he says, "healing sounds". Whether or not you are convinced by his claims, there is no denying the soothing, ethereal quality of *The Other Side of This* (Rykodisc RCD 10207).

The world music project was put together under the aegis of Mickey Hart, the Grateful Dead percussionist, who previously worked with Moreira on sections of the soundtrack to *Apocalypse Now*. Like his compatriot Nana Vasconcelos, Moreira evokes the life of his native country with a battery of drums and traditional instruments such as the berimbau.

A hypnotic experiment in pure rhythm, the album is less immediately accessible than the swooping jazz-rock of Fourth World, but still effective on its own terms. For those of a more, well, California disposition, the sleeve notes also provide instructions on exercises to be performed while listening.

Another way to clear the cobwebs from the head is to sample the powerhouse blues phrasing of the guitarist John Scofield. Now re-issued, his 1987 session *Blue Matter* (Gramovision GRV-57022) sounds more and more like one of the handful of truly great jazz albums of the decade. None of his subsequent bands has generated quite as much heat, and none has had a drummer as powerful and precise as Dennis Chambers.

HILARY FINCH

CLIVE DAVIS

## Under the spell of the wartime fairies

**E**lgar always comes into full flower in the summer, with Three Choirs, Promming Pomp and Circumstance, and the inevitable plethora of Gerontian dreams in one festival after another. This summer also sees a generous bouquet of recorded Elgar.

A new release from Sir Charles Mackerras and the orchestra of the Welsh National Opera of the two *Wand of Youth* suites, coupled with the more elusive songs from *The Starlight Express* (Argo 433 214-2), makes for a revealing comparison with Sir Edward Elgar's own recordings of those pieces. These are to be found in a five-CD set of archive material painstakingly transcribed from private collections in Peacock's *The Elgar Edition 1914-25* (Gemm CDS 9951-5).

The *Starlight Express*, a fantasy play by Algernon Blackwood for which Elgar wrote incidental music, was first performed at the Kingsway theatre at Christmas 1915, which accounts for the showbiz rhapsody on "The First Nowell" which, rather alarmingly, rounds the whole thing off. It is, of course, as far removed from its namesake at the Apollo Victoria as *Phantom of the Opera* is from *The Coronation of Poppea*. The ditties, though, could well have been the result of a Disney commission to Walter de la Mare for the libretto of *Mary Poppins*. The grown-up world has lost its way; this is a plea for childhood vision — or rather an adult's perception of it in the second

winter of the first world war. The Welsh National Opera Orchestra warms to the magic contained up panache of much of the writing and, in this well-balanced recording, lets every percussive moment spangle the writing. By Terfel, though, seems part of that "weary world" which "Exiled overlong from Fairyland" ... has rather lost its way.

For all the intelligence and gromming of his singing, he has nothing like the projective imagination of Elgar's own baritone, Charles Mott. Mott is clearly already under the spell of the blue-eyed fairy, for he sings with many a wink and a nudge, as well as the odd sob and sigh, suracing through the crackling 78 rpm score. Alison Hagley, for Sir Charles, is truly childlike in her

"Laughter" song and her tales of starry nights and morning spiders. The new disc also provides sympathetic performances of two short orchestral pieces, *Dream Children*. The vintage collection moves from Elgar's very first recording, the tiny salon piece "Carissima", to an important unperformed performance of the Second Symphony. Recording techniques of the time (explained by Jerrold Norrington) often demanded abridgement and even reorchestration. After the same Charles Mott has got his tongue round *The Priory of the Fleet*, listen to the cadenza of the Violin Concerto, accompanied by single harp instead of the usual thumping strings.

HILARY FINCH

## MY PERFECT WEEKEND

### DAME SHIRLEY PORTER

Former Lord Mayor of Westminster

Where would you go?

The Sussex Downs. I've always loved the English countryside and, although I didn't like my school in Worthing, walking across the downs now reminds me of my favourite childhood memories.

How would you get there?

By horse and trap.

Where would you stay?

With friends in a little farmhouse tucked beneath the downs.

Who would be your perfect companion?

I'd like a guru to teach me about the flowers and birds that live on the downs.

Who would be your least welcome guest?

Anybody who reminded me of the real world.

What essential piece of clothing would you take?

A track suit and walking boots.

What medicines would you take?

Insect-bite cream and aromatherapy oils for the bath.

What would you have to eat?

Simple food, locally grown and fresh. I eat lots of salad.

What would you have to drink?

Draught cider, and a glass of vodka and tonic when the sun goes down.

What would you read?

Poetry by Sylvia Plath and Percy Shelley, and Michael Burns's new biography, *Dreyfus: A Family Affair*. I would also like to look at a beautifully illustrated book on gardens.

What music would you listen to?

Mahler, Sibelius, Verdi and, if it was a long weekend, Wagner.

What would you watch on television?

Top-class golf.

What film would you watch?

*Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*.

Would you play any games or sport?

I'd swim, play tennis and golf and go down to the local pub for games of darts and snooker.

What luxury would you like?

A Jacuzzi (my Walkman is an essential, not a luxury).

## TV PREVIEW

### Cross of Fire

(Tuesday and Wednesday, BBC1, 9.30pm)

Another American mini-series, in the same format as the recent *An Inconvenient Woman*, and with roughly the same theme — though thankfully the chances of it including a scene of Roddy McDowell suddenly swallowing a wasp in a rose garden are remote. (Astonished death by oral wasp sting is not a plot device that convinces more than once, probably.)

Instead, *Cross of Fire* promises to be the modern-day liberal equivalent of D. W. Griffith's *Birth of a Nation* — a Ku-Klux-Klan story, based on real events, in which the clameran is not the saviour but the black-hearted villain, and the women still get raped.





# Party pieces with bite

**Frances Bissell**, the Times cook, on cool, light ways with oxtail, lamb and chicken



LAST week I described some recipes for casual, light food, suitable for any time of the day. This week, with an eye to the forthcoming bank holiday, I have thought about some more substantial dishes, food that can be served as a main course at a sit-down meal, or as a centrepiece for a garden party or buffet. I have rather neglected meat dishes in the past few weeks, but there is no reason why it cannot be cool, light and refreshing. Even a dish as substantial as oxtail and lentils can be turned into something suitable for summer dining.

I love the component parts that make up cock-a-leekie, and in the jellied version the prunes are important, with their contrasting colour and note of sharp sweetness.

Some of the dishes make cool starters but can be adapted to make substantial main courses, as I have suggested with the chicken liver salad. Cold lamb, especially when still pink and juicy, takes on a Moroccan feel when served with couscous and a yoghurt and cucumber sauce. Perhaps also make a chilli-hot sauce, and serve some cold ratatouille with the lamb and couscous. Different kinds of melon can be scooped out of the shell into balls, and put in a large glass bowl with a mint and honey syrup for a refreshing and easy pudding. To start with, serve a simple hors-d'oeuvre of quartered hard-boiled eggs and tomatoes, radishes and coarse salt, bowls of black and green olives, toasted almonds and pistachios, trimmed spring onions and carrot sticks.

A roast of English free-range veal also makes a marvellous cold dish the next day. *Vitello tonnato* is simply thin slices of veal layered on a platter, and covered with a sauce made of tuna fish (which can be canned), anchovies, olive oil, lemon juice and egg yolks, processed together until smooth and shiny, like mayonnaise. It is equally good made with cold, cooked salmon. Use about 4oz/110g tuna for each pound or so of sliced veal. Chopped capers are usually scattered over the dish, which is even better if the veal kidneys have been included with the roast. A freshly poached chicken, sliced on to a platter, can be treated in the same way, but I think the following chicken recipe is even better.

#### Jellied cock-a-leekie

(serves 8)

4 sheets of gelatine

1½lb/680g freshly poached free-range chicken off the bone  
8 thin leeks, peeled and split lengthways  
12 prunes, soaked  
1pt/570ml well-flavoured chicken stock

Break up the gelatine and soak it in a small amount of water. Cut the chicken into long strips, and layer with the leeks in a wet loaf tin. 2lb/1kg size, with a line of prunes

down the middle. Strain the gelatine, and put it in a bowl. Boil ½pt/70ml chicken stock, and pour it over the gelatine. Stir until it has dissolved, and then stir in the rest of the stock. Pour carefully over the chicken and leeks. Allow to cool, and then refrigerate until set. Turn out on to a platter, slice and serve.

#### Chicken liver and vegetable salad

(serves 4-6)

1lb/455g chicken livers, free-range if you can get them  
1tbsp sunflower or peanut oil  
3 carrots  
1 kohlrabi  
3 courgettes  
salad greens  
endive  
pollo rosso  
oakleaf  
vinaigrette  
raspberry or balsamic vinegar  
walnut oil  
salt, pepper

Trim and wipe the chicken livers, and remove any piping and discoloured parts. Heat the oil, or use a non-stick pan, and fry the chicken livers until just rose-pink inside. Remove from the pan, and put to one side. Peel and slice the vegetables as appropriate. Kohl rabi can be quite tough and should be cut in thinner slices than the courgettes, which cook quickly. For a decorative effect, I sometimes use a canelling knife down the length of the courgette and carrot so that when sliced a flower effect is achieved. Blanch the vegetables until just tender, drain and refresh under cold water to prevent them cooking further.

Arrange the salad leaves on a platter, or in a bowl, and pile the livers and vegetables on top. Heat the pan in which you cooked the livers, and deglaze it with two to three tablespoons vinegar. I have suggested sweet ones, which go well with liver.

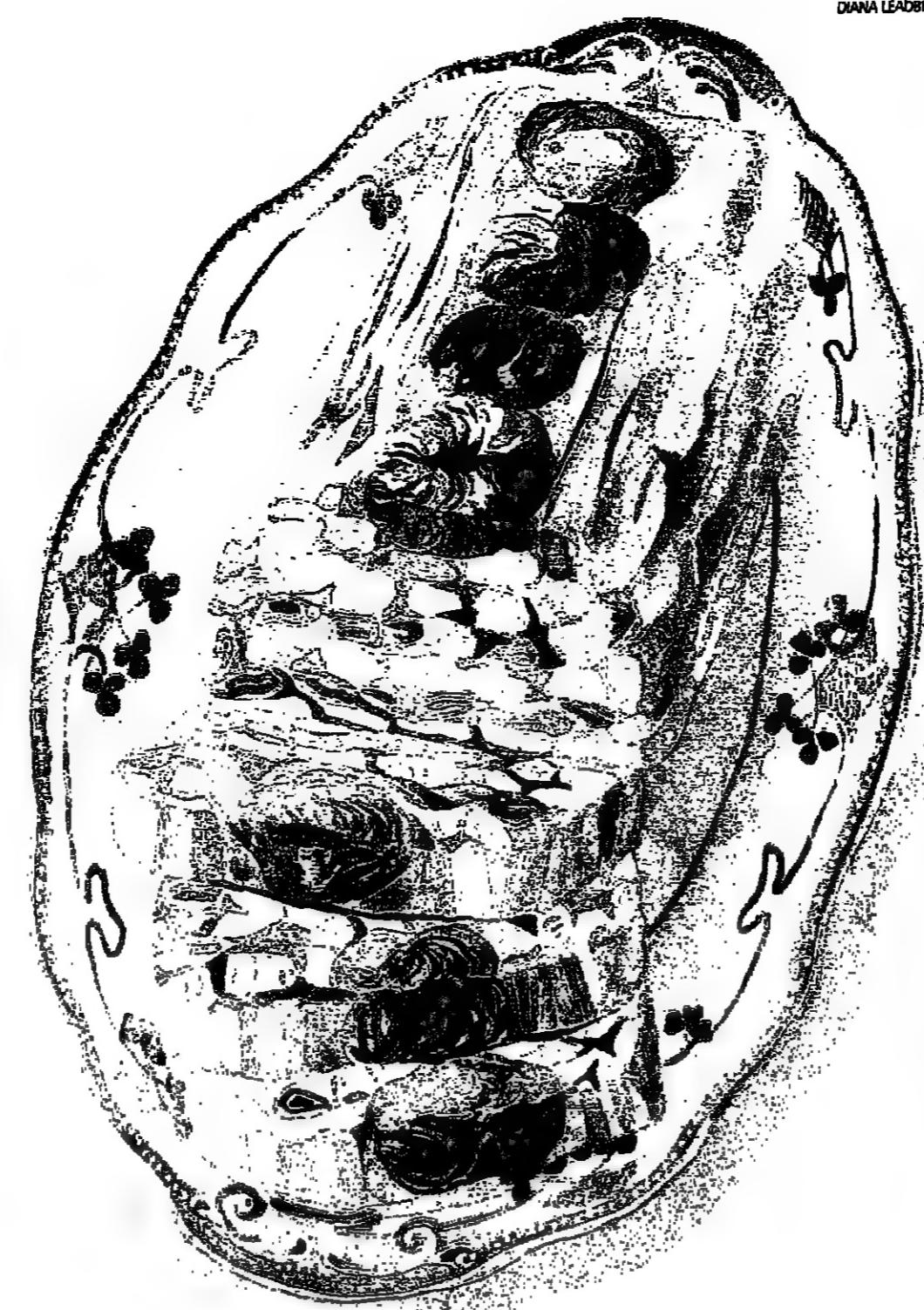
Remove from the heat, add the walnut oil, about six tablespoons, and a little salt and pepper. Pour the hot dressing over the salad and serve. This is very good with a freshly made rice salad flecked with lots of herbs.

#### Lamb and couscous salad and cucumber and melon salsa

(serves 8)

1½-2lb/680-900g trimmed neck fillets of lamb  
olive oil  
fresh thyme  
freshly ground black pepper  
sea salt

Make a marinade with a couple of tablespoons of fruity olive oil flavoured with thyme, pepper and salt crushed together in a mortar and, if you like, some garlic. Paint this on the lamb, and leave it for an hour or so before cooking. Place on a rack in a roasting tin, and roast in a pre-heated oven at 200C/400F, gas mark 6 for 12 to 15 minutes, remove from the oven, and allow the meat to rest for 15 to 20



minutes before slicing, which will produce uniformly rosy slices.

Alternatively, the meat can be barbecued or grilled, or indeed the equivalent amount can be sliced from a leftover leg of lamb.

Once sliced and brushed with a little more of the marinade, arrange on a platter of couscous salad, and serve with the fresh, crisp cucumber and melon salsa.

Couscous salad

(serves 8)

4lb/340g uncooked couscous

warm water  
extra virgin olive oil  
lemon juice  
salt

freshly ground black pepper

chopped fresh mint

chopped fresh coriander

Moisten the couscous with about 4pt/140ml water, and let it stand for a few minutes. Use two forks or your fingers to break up the lumps of couscous. Add more water, and allow to stand, breaking up the lumps again. The "grains" should be tender but not wet when ready to add the dressing, which is simply the seasoning and herbs added to taste. A variety of optional extras can be added: stoned chopped olives, spring onions trimmed and sliced, toasted pine nuts or almonds, raisins or chopped dried apricots, and peeled, chopped tomatoes. This, like all salads is best served freshly made, but if you do have to prepare it in advance and refrigerate, let it come back to room temperature before serving.

Cucumber and melon salsa

(serves 8)

1lb/455g large wedge of sweet melon, diced

4oz/110g thick plain yoghurt

2tbsp fresh coriander leaves, finely chopped

2tbsp fresh mint, finely chopped

1tbsp capers, drained and chopped

1tbsp green olives, chopped

salt, pepper to taste

Cut the cucumbers in half, and discard the seeds. Roughly chop or grate the flesh, and mix with the melon and the rest of the ingredients. Leave for an hour or so for the flavours to develop.

Steak, bread and tomato salad

(serves 4-6)

6 thick slices of good quality bread

1lb/455g skirt or rump steak

1lb/455g ripe tomatoes

1 mild sweet onion

1 celery stalk

fresh lovage (optional) or fresh basil or marjoram

extra virgin olive oil

sherry vinegar

seasoning

Grill or toast the bread lightly on both sides, and tear it into irregular pieces. Put in a large bowl. Grill or pan-fry the steak until done to your liking, and rest it for 15 minutes before carving into thin slices. Pile these on top of the bread, including juices. If you wish, peel and seed the tomatoes before chopping them and adding to the bowl. Peel and thinly slice the onion, trim and slice

This is best made a day or two in advance so that the dish can be degreased. Have the oxtails chopped, and brown them all over in a heavy frying-pan. Transfer them to a large stockpot with the seasonings. Cover with water, and bring to the boil. Skim the surface, partially cover, and simmer until the meat is beginning to come away from the bone. Strain the liquid into a large bowl, and eventually, when cool, refrigerate it until the fat congeals and can be removed. Reduce the liquid to about 1pt/570ml. Remove the meat from the bones and put to one side. Cook the lentils until just tender but not soft. Taste the liquid and check for seasoning. It may need a little salt at this stage. Layer the meat and lentils in a wet 2lb/1kg loaf tin, and pour on the liquid. When cool, refrigerate until set. To serve, turn out and slice.

## Courses with a combination that works

### ENTERTAINING AT HOME

EMMA BRIDGEWATER AND MATTHEW RICE



Keen kitchen hands: Matthew and Emma, with their children Elizabeth, three, and Kitty, 18 months

I like to combine my vegetables with something else: carrots with ginger and sugar perhaps; or potatoes with garlic and rosemary. I'm particularly keen on peppers and aubergines cooked on top of the Aga so that they're slightly burnt. I'm also very fond of Cornish greens and stuff like brassica and brussel tops.

The only trouble is, I get sleepy late at night and am inclined to say I'll skip the pudding and go to sleep instead.

Emma: I'm a great one for saying there's chocolate around and, of course, coffee. Matthew would never bother —

he's very likely to cook some quite good vegetables and leave them somewhere, on the draining board perhaps. I like to make sure it's all there. I'll remind him that he cooked some nice little cauliflower fish and try to find out what's done with it.

Like everyone else, we've got a gang of people we see a lot of. Matthew used to have dinner parties two or three times a week — he does cook very well, he's inspired in a slapdash sort of way — but suddenly I felt one couldn't go on subjecting one's friends to quite such a ramshackle routine. We need a mixture of Matthew's

inspiration and my rudimentary attention to detail, so that people get a whole dinner.

There was one gruesome evening where they got a goat curry and nothing else, not a single solitary grain of rice to go with it nor anything before or after. At that point, Matthew sank pretty low in my estimation. It just wasn't sufficient, just wasn't good enough. They probably had to bring their own wine as well. So I said, OK. We're going to entertain less often, do it better and get beyond that dreary "red or white?" question and ask people, when they arrive, if they'd like some of the hard

stuff as well — vodka usually. It never bothers us if people don't ask us back. We find that with some people we take it turns religiously and then there are others who you never, ever go to dinner with.

Living somewhere sociable, like Fulham, I'm aware that it's mad not to be sociable. We won't always live in London and there won't always be this huge circle of people, so we try to make the most of it.

Matthew Rice's signature cauliflower fish

- two clean-looking cauliflowers
- three or four cloves of garlic
- 2tbsp olive oil
- most of a tube or can of tomato puree
- lots of Parmesan
- ten Carrs water biscuits

Break cauliflower into florets, blanch for three minutes or until soft. Fry the garlic in the olive oil and do not use a garlic crusher because it will taste acrid and nasty — just peel and cut up small. When the garlic is soft, but before it is brown and burn, add the cauliflower, Parmesan, tomato puree and the water biscuits which have been crushed up small with a rolling pin. Keep stirring, making sure the cauliflower isn't broken up, adding more olive oil, a little red wine, salt and roughly crushed black pepper.

*Interview by Paddy Bart*  
*Emma Bridgewater, china designer, is famous for her spongeware. She and her husband, designer and writer Matthew Rice, live and work in Fulham. Matthew's book, *The Village Buildings of Britain*, will be published in paperback in October by Little Brown (£12.99).*

## Get in the holiday mood

Jane MacQuitty selects wines for all weathers for next weekend's break

### Best buys

- Georges du Boeuf, Sélection Rouge & Blanc Marks & Spencer £2.99
- Merlot Rosé, Domaine de Lalande Waitrose £2.99
- '91 Domaine de la Tuilerie Merlot Rosé Sainsbury's £3.85
- 1986 Léon Red Asda £2.69
- 1990 Douro Cabeceira Red Victoria Wine £2.99

Rain or shine, we will all need wine to wash down next weekend's bank holiday. A good place to start your holiday wine hunt is Marks & Spencer, whose recently launched Winemakers of the World selection is one of the best moves that Chris Murphy and his wine-buying team have made in a long time.

Admittedly, not all of the M&S seven winemakers' wines are worth buying and as usual, prices at this supermarket are on the high side.

But at least three of these wines demonstrate the best that winemaker, soil and climate can do in their part of the world.

Focusing on a winemaker, instead of a region or variety, is just as M&S has done in its new German wine range, is a clever idea and, so far, a unique one on supermarket shelves. Quite rightly Georges Duboeuf, the king of Beaujolais but now becoming well known for the excellence of his other French wines, is featured here with his '91 Beaujolais Villages at £4.99. Duboeuf's signature is vibrant fruit-laden wines with pretty flower labels whose gulpability makes them an especially good buy. M&S also stocks his vin de table duo — the delicious Sélection Rouge and the slightly less appealing Sélection Blanc — for a knockdown £2.99.

Another good M&S buy within the winemakers' range is Christian Moueix's soft, plummy '89 Merlot from Bordeaux (£4.99), whose smoky, spicy finish is typical of

'91 vintage. In on Sainsbury stocks the '91 Fleurie La Madone, from the Cellier des Samsons co-operative,

whose vivacious, raspberry fruit is easily worth its £5.95 tag. A cheaper and more unusual alternative is the '91 Lohr Wildflower Gamay, from Monterey (Odbjerg £4.49), whose vivid, crimson purple colour and bright, juicy fruit I enjoyed.

Spicier summer fare, whether it is barbecued sausages spiked with a chilli sauce, or an extra strong version of coronation chicken, needs a more powerful red to accompany it. Try the stylish 1990



Picnic pleasure: chilled reds in the outdoors

Chinon Les Garous, with its musky, smoky, raspberry fruit (Majestic Wine Warehouses £4.99), a good example of the Loire's Cabernet Franc grape.

For a cheap and cheerful holiday red, try Asda's 1986 Léon from Spain, whose hefty, sandalwood-scented fruit is a snip at £2.69. Just 30p more brings you Portugal's 1990 Douro Cláeira, whose inky, juicy fruit costs £2.99 from Victoria Wine.

Finally, do not forget to wash down the last of the soft summer fruits with a glass of the splendid, sweet-peachy-pineapple '86 Clos Saint-Georges, Graves Supérieures, rather better value at Majestic for £5.99 than the £6.29 asked for the 1990 vintage at Sainsbury.



### GREAT CLASSICS

SOUPE AU PISTOU

- 2 small navets
- ½lb/230g courgettes
- ½lb shelled broad beans and peas (optional)
- 2 or 3 ripe tomatoes, skinned and seeded
- ½tsp coarse sea salt
- a good handful of fresh basil leaves
- 2 or 3 garlic cloves, peeled and roughly chopped
- 3 or 4tbsp extra virgin olive oil

Put the soaked beans in a large saucepan with 4pt/2.3l of cold water and the herbs. Bring to the boil, partially cover, and simmer for about one hour. Meanwhile, prepare the vegetables, toppling and peeling, and slicing and shelling, as appropriate. If using parsnips and/or artichokes, add them first, simmering with the beans for about 15 to 20 minutes before adding the carrots and turnips, and then about five to ten minutes later, the beans and the courgettes. Roughly chop the tomato, and add this to the soup. While the vegetables finish cooking, make the pistou in a mortar. Put the salt in first, and then the torn-up basil leaves and garlic. Crush to a paste, and then gradually add the oil. When all is well mixed, stir into the steamingureen of soup. For an even more substantial version of this soup, pasta can be added to the pot, at about the same time as you add the carrots.

# Butcher with a beef about good meat

**Over the counter:**  
**Fiona Beckett**  
 investigates a  
 traditional  
 butcher's shop

In the lush green meadows bordering the river Dart at Totnes, south Devon, graze 21 bullocks belonging to David Goss of A.W. Luscombe, butchers to the town since 1788.

Each evening Mr Goss checks his herd, the black and white Hereford crosses mingling with the rich chestnut brown of the local steers. He greets them affectionately, pushing them away if they get too boisterous in their rush to pock their noses in the bag of feed he has brought them. Then, coolly and without sentimentality, he decides which is ready to go to the slaughterhouse.

Mr Goss is a traditional butcher, with 30 years' experience in the business. At the small shop in Fore Street, Totnes, which he inherited from the Luscombe family four years ago, whole carcasses hang from a row of hooks at the back of the shop, where each customer's meat is cut to order.

Around the butcher's block in the centre of the shop, Mr Goss and his two assistants, Steve (a comparative newcomer, with just 20 years under his belt) and young Martin (three years in the business) are deftly slicing, boning and trimming.

Twice a week Mr Goss goes to market at Exeter and Newton Abbot, where he is one of the few remaining butchers to buy live on the hoof. He kept his own pigs for 25 years, but the field he rented was sold for development. He regrets the loss. Modern pigs, he says, are much too lean. "Nowadays people restrict them to 3-4lb of feed a day. I used to give mine 6-7lb, whatever they wanted. Some pigs eat more than others."

Mr Goss does not believe in any of this "new-fangled nonsense" about lean meat. "Fat is what gives meat its taste. We notice in the shop that people who like a bit of fat are our and about more than the ones who watch their weight."

There's one old girl who comes in every Friday and buys three lamb chops and four pork chops; one chop for each day of the week. She likes plenty of fat on them and we haven't seen her miss a Friday, even though she is well into her eighties."

Mr Goss was only 11 years old when he first worked for Luscombe's, as a Saturday boy. "I



Hooked on the fat of the land: David Goss is a traditional West Country butcher who does not believe in the "new-fangled nonsense" about lean meat. "Fat is what gives meat its taste," he says

learnt to make a few sausages and did the deliveries on my bike," he says. When he left school at 15 he went into the butcher's business. "I left school at the end of July, had a week's holiday and that was it. It's not easy in the shop to take time off. If you're missing for a day people ask, 'Where were you yesterday?'"

Most of the regular customers, who include Joyce Molyneux, the chef at the famous Carved Angel restaurant in Dartmouth, have been coming to Luscombe's for years. There's a routine exchange of friendly banter: ("My children are wedded to your chops." "Do we get invited to the wedding?")

Each week, depending on the weather, there's the equivalent of a couple of bullocks, 15-20

lamb and about half a dozen pigs. Mr Goss still finds it hard to predict exactly what sort of meat there will be a run on. "Some days they're all wanting chicken, another day we'll have 20 left." He is inclined to blame the media: "It's all in these women's books. It depends what recipe they've got on," he says.

All the meat is hung in the old-fashioned way, the lamb meltingly tender, the dark south Devon beef marbled with rich, creamy yellow fat. The colour is regarded with suspicion by his younger customers, who are used to fat-free vermilion supermarket meat. "The older people take no notice at all," Mr Goss says.

At the back of the shop is an old-fashioned "pickle pot" where ox

tongue, belly of pork and brisket are salted for up to a fortnight. At this time of year, they're popular for cold cuts; in winter the regular customers like their beef boiled up with a few carrots.

Luscombe's also makes its own hog's pudding, a traditional West Country combination of pork, oatmeal and seasoning, not unlike a mild haggis. The locals love it. "We had one customer going out to India who took our 40lb frozen with him," Mr Goss recalls. "He said he couldn't go for three years without his hog's pudding."

Mr Goss makes no claim to understand the heated debates on "mad cow disease" (bovine spongiform encephalitis), organic farming and the ethics of meat-

eating that beset his business. His meat, he says, is as naturally reared as any; his cattle go to pasture in all but the most inclement weather. "Because I go to market I know exactly where the cattle come from and can find out how they have been fed," he says.

What matters to Mr Goss is killing his animals as humanely as possible. "If they go to the slaughterhouse nice and quiet they die all right. If they get worked up they don't make such good meat. I stick to British beef. Some of these foreign breeds are a bit wild when you come to move them."

Despite the fact that his meat is raised in the traditional way, prices compare favourably with supermarket meat. In many cases they

are cheaper. Mr Goss's chandler's cut — a cut-price steak sliced from the top of the rump — costs £2.69 a pound, which is cheaper than most supermarket frying steaks. Lamb chops, cut to order, are £2.85.

It concerns him that a new generation of shoppers is missing out on a good thing. "The youngsters don't seem to want joints," he complains. "It's all barbecues and stir-fries. To be honest, I've never had anything barbecue and I don't want it. Give me a good roast dinner any day."

Lamb's kidneys with juniper, mustard and cream (serves 4)

8 lamb's kidneys

8 juniper berries

Skin and halve the kidneys and snip out the inner cores. Slice each half in two, horizontally. Pound the juniper berries with the salt in a mortar and sprinkle over the kidneys with a generous twist of the pepper mill. Melt the butter in a pan and sauté the kidneys gently for about four minutes. Add the mustard and the cream. Increase the heat and bubble the sauce until it thickens. Serve immediately.

● Recipe from the Carved Angel Cookery Book (Grafton, £6.99)

## Anglo-Norman conquest

**A group of French chef-patrons is offering a lucky British couple three dinners a year — for ten years**

*simple au goût de cerfuil. Les fromages du terroir et le trou normand in the form of a granite de pomme au Calvados were an essential part of the meal, as indeed they were at most of the meals I ate during my brief visit.*

The competition could not be easier. The chefs between them have devised a dish which uses local produce, and each of them has this dish on the menu in his restaurant. All you have to do, after you have eaten, is to fill in an entry form and list all the ingredients in the dish. There are also three questions to be answered about certain Normandy products.

Even if there were not such a splendid competition going on from now until February, la Suisse Normande is worth a detour. It is rural and extremely peaceful, with very few main roads and no high speed train services from Paris. The countryside is beautiful, with small towns and villages set on the banks of the numerous rivers which criss-cross the area. And the food in these restaurants is quite simply the best. The chefs are proud of their local traditions and produce; the

culinary skills of the chefs are that they have a common aim to achieve higher and higher standards, and so to put the cooking of Suisse Normande on the gastronomic map, but they go about it in their own individual establishment.

There is the deceptively quiet M' Collas at the Hôtel de la Poste in Falaise; his pilot's licence enabled us to have a bird's-eye view of the beautiful countryside one day. Jean Pierre Guillais at Le Lion Verd has one of the most beautifully situated restaurants on the

banks of the river Orne in Puntanges. Also in Falaise are Gilbert Costil's La Fine Fourchette, and L'Asatre where Alain Hassain cooks light, fresh flavours, often using wild herbs and flowers from the meadows. Michel Choplin cooks in the elegant surroundings of the Moulin du Vey in Clécy, which is owned by his equally elegant mother-in-law, Mme Leduc or la Grande Dame, as we came to call her.

Pont d'Erembourg is on the confluence of two small rivers, is where you will find Jacques Bertaut at Le Poisson-Vivant. Try his *auromière de coquilles St Jacques*, which he serves with a richly flavoured crab coulis. Alain Rivière at the Hôtel du Commerce in Pont d'Ouilly cooks in classical style.

Nearby in the commune of St Christophe, Gilles and Françoise Lecour run the Auberge St Christophe, a charming inn covered in virgin creeper. Many of the restaurants have rooms and are part of the Logis de France group, which is always a recommendation for a good night's sleep.

Philippe Auway and his wife at Le Lion d'Or in Ecouche were our last stop before we took the train from Argentan to Paris, and there we tried some of his feather-light prosciuttos of langoustines. He wanted to give us one of the dishes which all the chefs have on their menu Normand, but because of the blockade, the salmon had not arrived.

The menu included *nonette de saumon au beurre de citron, pâté aux saveurs de la Suisse Normande, Normandy cheeses — Livarot, Camembert and Pont l'Eveque — and a tarte aux pommes*.

The president of this genial group is Patrice Malgré who, with his wife Catherine front of house, is chef patron at Le Cerf (18 rue du Chêne, Conde sur Noireau; 010 33 31 69 40 55, fax 010 33 31 69 78 29). This is probably the best starting point for information about the competition. Incidentally, there are no hidden clues in anything you have just read, nor will there be in the cookery column I plan to write on Normandy food in September.

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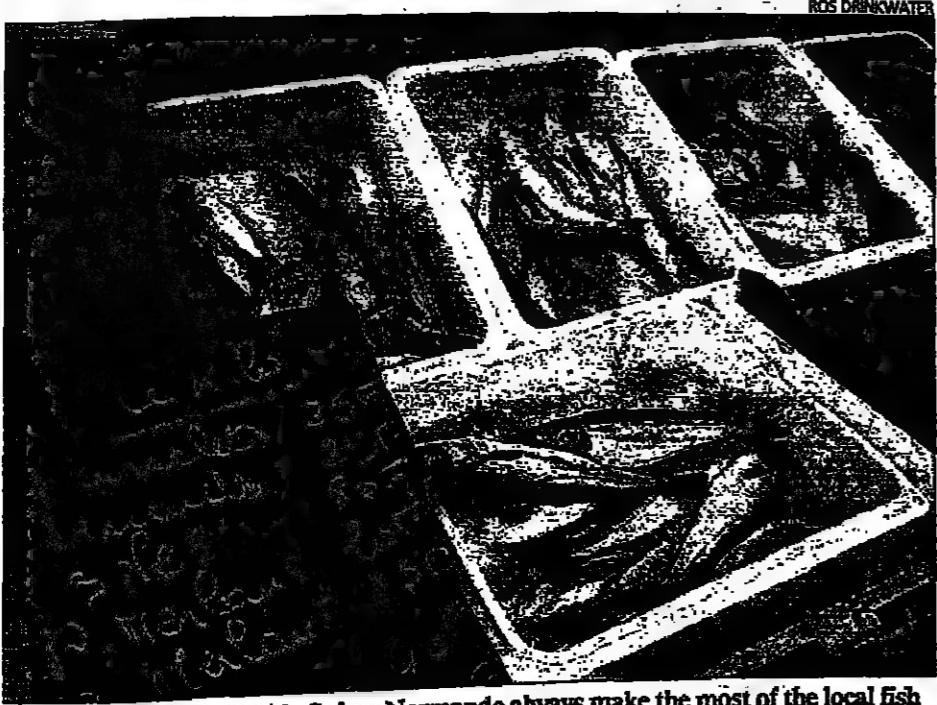
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Freshly caught: chefs in la Suisse Normande always make the most of the local fish

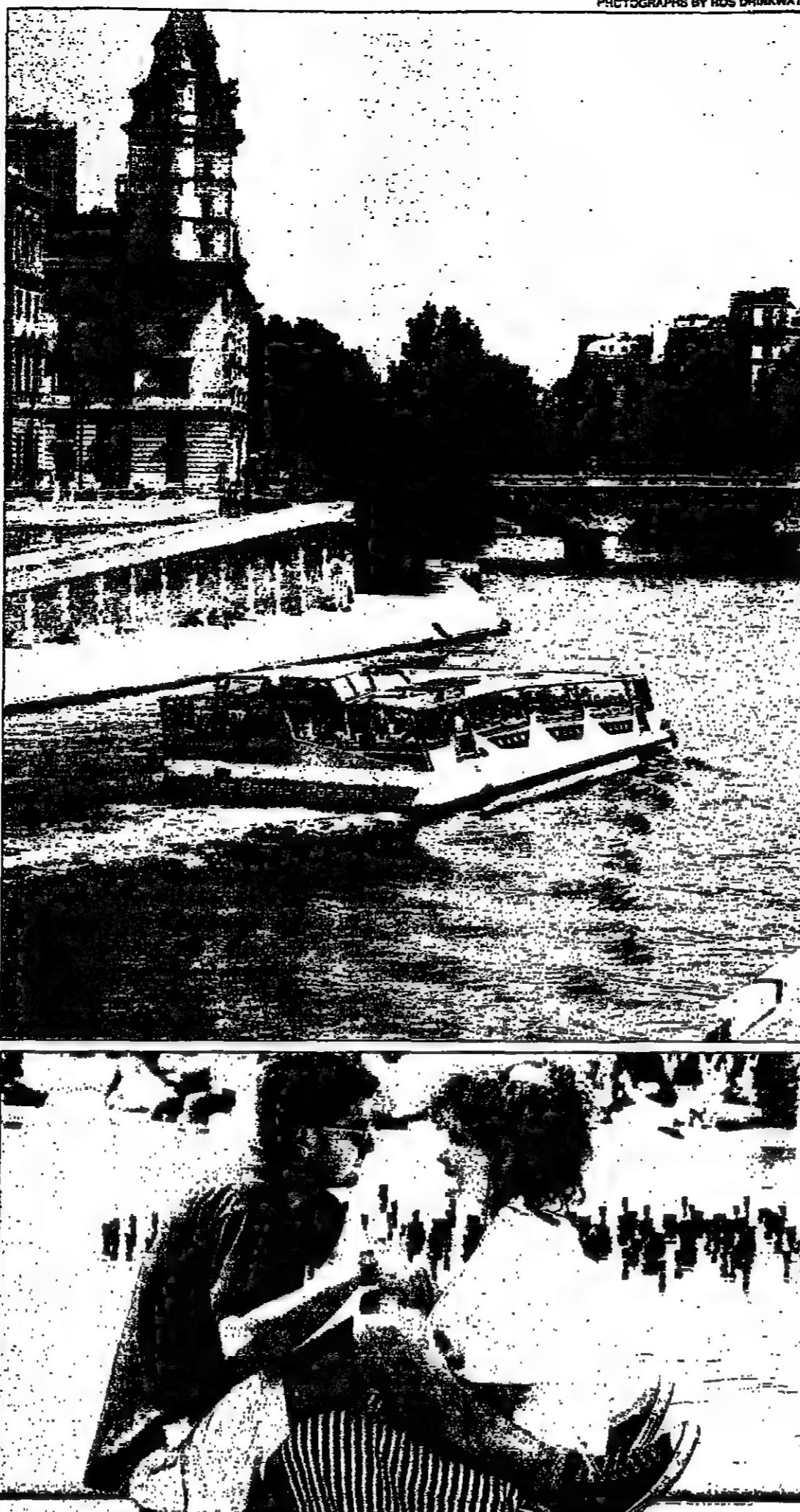
FRANCES BISSELL



## GETTING AWAY



Stay cool, by taking a break at the celebrated Les Deux Magots in St Germain; getting on the water in a *bateau mouche*; and just letting the world go by in the shade of the Louvre pyramid



Id then eat the falafels as they

lie down on to your shoes. The Goutte d'Or in the north-east corner of the city, just east of Montmartre, is the centre of Iris's Arab and African immigrant communities. Jacques Hira remarked last year that while strolling in the Goutte d'Or, he was shocked by its immigrants' foreign ways, not mentioning the noises and hours. His words caused a storm of protest. Now more and more young Parisians are ironising the area. The Saint Germain market has the best artisinal products in Paris. There are tab and African grocers, and auvergne Azzedine Alaïa has signed special T-shirts for the city's discount store, Tati.

Tati Belleville, a northeast suburb, restaurants are open all night, and traditional Russian cafés rub shoulders with Arab, Chinese and Vietnamese restaurants. The speciality is a sandwich tunisiennes, a north African sandwich filled with tuna and black olives.

When it all gets too much, go to the mosque opposite the Jardin des Plantes. Inside the green and white walls you will find ancient carpets, huge sculptured wooden doors, beautiful courtyards and the Hammam. This is the Turkish steam bath where you can sweat out your stress in peace and, feeling restored, recline on a soft couch with a glass of mint tea.

This is the last of our regional guides to France. Next week: Best of Britain returns.

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**LAZY** summer days should be spent eating, snoozing and pottering around local streets. For evening entertainment pick up *Pariscope*, which comes out every Wednesday and costs FF15 (30p). It lists 200 restaurants, every film showing in Paris's 350 cinemas, clubs, exhibitions and museums. Films are cheap on Monday afternoons. Museums stay open until 8pm on Thursdays (the best time to go in summer, because they are virtually deserted). Clubs start later and stay open longer in Paris and Parisians will drop in for an hour or two at a club between bars. The scene is not as big as London but there is much more choice with zouk, reggae, jazz, funk and techno all rubbing shoulders. Most end at 5am, but if you've got the energy there are a few that start at 7am in the morning, and there is often a private *péniche* party on a boat which

## NIGHT LIFE

starts after the clubs close and is only for hard-core clubbers. Music and venues change every night and British DJs are often flown in for a one-night stand. The best way to pick up information is to read the fliers at Bastille Métro station and listen to Radio NOVA 101FM, which gives all the night's best raves. While entrance is sometimes free, drinks can be exorbitant, so it is best to find a bar nearby for refreshment.

• *Les Bains Douches*, 7 rue du Bourg-l'Abbé, 3e (48 87 01 80) is super-trendy and has a heavy female bouncer at the door. Music depends on the night and there is a sushi bar upstairs where the stars recline.

• *Sherezade*, 3 rue de Liège, 9e (48 74 83)

20). Trendy young things go here for a range of funk, reggae and rai music. A former Russian cabaret, it has wonderful gold pillars and lots of red velvet and looks like an Arabian prince's tent.

• *Le Flamingo*, 184 rue Saint-Jacques, 5e (43 54 30 48) is where serious thirty-somethings go to listen to jazz and blues and discuss the demise of Parisian culture.

• *Le Casbah*, 18-20 rue de la Forge Royale, 11e. The interior looks like a Moorish temple and harems of women strip themselves over vast cushions and sip cocktails at FF150.

• *Le Dépêcheur*, rue Fontaine, 9e. Open 24 hours. Heavenly bodies come to this restaurant to relax after a hard night's clubbing. Lycra-clad girls play pool while the men slug tequila and hamburgers are served all night.

## GUIDE BOOKS

- *Time Out Paris Guide* (Penguin £9.99). Undoubtedly the best for any age group. Lists up-to-date nightclubs, bars and places to take children, with entertaining historical anecdotes.
- *Blue Guide Paris* (Black/Norton £10.99). Rather more restrained. Exhaustive to a fault, but covers nothing which isn't in a gallery or a museum.
- *Paxton's Paris* (Pan £5.99). Long-established book has excellent coverage of cheap hotels, restaurants and shopping, but not adequate on museums or history.

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## city of towering prices



Character: a restored house in Maison Lafitte for £595,000

or of an old block without a character: a restored house in Maison Lafitte for £595,000.

The 16th, near the Bois de Boulogne in the west of the city, is pleasant, with wide, tree-lined avenues and magnificent 19th-century buildings. Here a large apartment (100sq m) in an imposing *hôtel de ville* (town hall), built in grand style, with high ceilings and portes-fenêtres à la française (French windows) leading to an ornate wrought-iron balcony, will cost at least £300,000.

Well-maintained flats in the green and pleasant northwest suburbs, such as Maisons Lafitte, Neuilly, Boulogne and Versailles, start at £60,000 for one bedroom. To avoid the massive rush-hour jams, make sure there is a railway

or Métro station nearby. Modern box-like detached houses, with two or three bedrooms and a small garden, cost from £150,000, about half an hour on the train from central Paris. Anything old and interesting on the outskirts of the city will be much more expensive – at least £300,000 for a restored character house with three bedrooms and a garden.

The leasehold system does not exist in France, where all property is bought freehold. Flat owners are jointly responsible for the common areas and decisions about maintenance and repairs are taken collectively by the residents in the block. If you are buying a flat, check your share of these maintenance costs before signing the sale contract.

There are many small firms of estate agents in Paris, but because most owners who wish to sell advertise the property themselves, prospective buyers should study the small ads in the French daily newspaper, *Le Figaro*, and specialist magazines.

CHERYL TAYLOR

• UK agents with associates in Paris include Anglo-French Properties Ltd, 111A Walton Street, London SW1 071-225 0359, and Property France, Porway, Wantage, Oxfordshire OX12 8JL. Also, Phillip Hawkes, 94 rue du Faubourg St Honoré, 75008 Paris (01 33 1 42 68 11 11).

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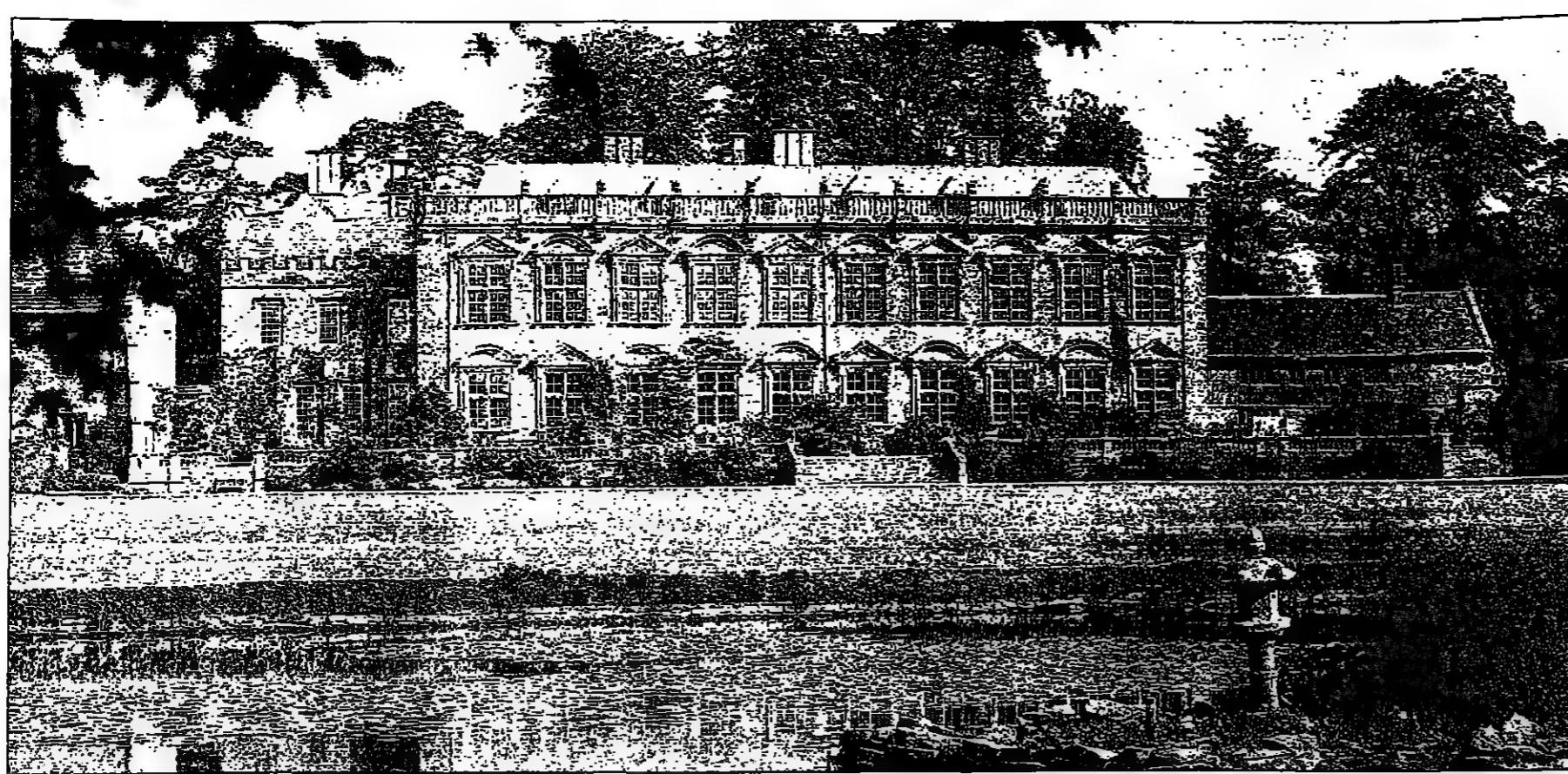
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Restored to its former glory: 15th-century Brympton d'Evercy, near Yeovil in Somerset, which has an award-winning garden, is for sale with 25 acres at £850,000

Mary Wilson describes how a neglected 15th-century house in a jungle was brought to life

Judy Clive-Ponsonby-Fane is one of those women who can turn her hand to most things. When she married in 1974, a lot of work was needed on the imposing 15th-century stately home — Brympton d'Evercy, near Yeovil in Somerset — which her husband, Charles, had recently inherited. Yet within five months seven state-rooms and nine acres of gardens were opened to the public. "When we moved in the house was just an empty shell, although there were not too many repairs to be done," Mr Clive-Ponsonby-Fane says. "Judy made all the curtains and chair covers, and we spent much of our time in the local auction house buying furniture. She also did wonders with the gardens in a very short time."

Sadly the house, which has been in his family for 300 years, and into which he and his wife have put nearly 18 years of effort to restore it to its former glory, culminating in winning the Christie's Garden of Year award last year, is up for sale.

His grandmother had been a passionate gardener, and had the luxury of gardening for her own pleasure, whereas his wife had to think "public", making sure there was colour in the garden all the

## A labour of love

year round, and that it would need minimum maintenance.

The task of creating an instant garden was an uphill battle, she says. "A very good gardener came round when I was in the middle of planting hundreds and hundreds of shrubs, flowers and trees. I explained what I was doing and was somewhat taken aback when he told me it would take at least ten to 15 years to create a new garden. Looking back, I reckon it has taken at least 17 years. One of the first lessons I learnt was that some plants just do not like you."

The lawns take two people six days to mow, she says, and weed control is a nightmare. "I'm afraid I'm not very green in this department: I believe in mulching and weed spraying. One bed in the front was full of ground elder and I have taken the plunge, pulled everything out and just sprayed. It should stay clear for at least a year; I wish I had been more ruthless when I started. My only experience of gardening before I married was

looking after my herbaceous window boxes in London.

"It has taken an age to clear everything. We spent a year taking out all the brambles for our 'twig-o-retum' — you can't call it an arborium, it's much too small. I've put in trees which are fun, slightly different. We have yellow elms, a beige laburnum, *Fagus' Fastigiata* [upright beeches], tulip trees, a hawthorn tree and a lovely magnolia *liliflora 'Nigra'*. And a few others whose names I can't remember, but they look very beautiful."

**A**cross the lake, which is full of fish and unusual ducks, is the festival garden containing all sorts of trees and shrubs of varying heights and shades of green and yellow, which changes all through the year. Mrs Clive-Ponsonby-Fane worked it all out with paper models, so that she could see what it would look like when fully grown.

On the front lawn is a collection of five "elephants". "Well, they will

look like elephants when they have earliest flowering bulbs in this bed — winter sweet, japonica, winter jasmine and winter honeysuckles.

"I must have bought thousands of plants over the years — I used to order them by the hundred — but now I mostly propagate from friends' plants and from my own. I adore propagating but it is very time consuming: you have to tend the plants daily."

Grandmother planted all white and yellow flowers in the beds at the front of the garden, and that theme has been maintained. Up the hill at the side of the house, past the most beautiful bluebells, are two spectacular Paulownia trees, which have purple foxglove flowers with brown hairy bracts. These come out in May and stand high above the giant leaves. To make an even more impressive show, the trees are pruned in April so the new leaves grow bigger, to about 18in across. Higher up the hill is a bed full of foxgloves and Pieris (a shrub with red leaves and white flowers), which look quite splendid when they are all in bloom.

Her pride is the winter garden, at its best from December to March. "Right now, you would wonder what this grody little area was all about," she says. She has all the

plants in the beds in the winter — winter sweet, japonica, winter jasmine and winter honeysuckles.

"I must have bought thousands of plants over the years — I used to order them by the hundred — but now I mostly propagate from friends' plants and from my own. I adore propagating but it is very time consuming: you have to tend the plants daily."

"As to learning about gardening, I just read lots and lots of books, worked out what would flower when and what space it needed, and started planting."

The couple have one full-time gardener, and further help one morning a week in the vegetable garden, which includes an assortment of fruit trees — figs, apples, pears, quinces, plums, mulberries, apricots and gooseberries.

Will they come back some time to see how the gardens are surviving under the new owner? "I don't think so," Mrs Clive-Ponsonby-Fane says. "If Brympton is bought by someone who neglects the garden I will be devastated, and if it is bought by someone who makes it look even better I will be jealous!"

• Brympton d'Evercy and its 25 acres are being offered for sale at £850,000 through the agents Strutt & Parker.

or Calais, or you can sail direct to Dieppe or Le Havre. A new motorway planned to link Calais-Abbeville and Rouen will cut the current journey time from Calais to the Dieppe region by half.

Situated in the Pays-de-Bray region of the Seine-Maritime, between the old market town of Blangy-sur-Bresle and the coast at le Tréport, the pretty *colombage* (half-timbered) house pictured below, next-door to a cafe in a small hamlet, is for sale at £28,000 (including agency fees). The Channel port of Dieppe is 45 minutes' drive away.

The old house is in good habitable condition, with lots of character, but needs some interior redecoration and central heating. It has a living room, dining-room, kitchen, utility room and WC on the ground floor: two bedrooms and shower-room upstairs; plus a loft for conversion and a small rear garden. The UK agent is Northern France Property, 70 Brewer Street, London W1 (071-287 4940).

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Hamlet house: this *colombage* is £28,000

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## Beyond the garden gnome

Sophie Chamier finds a shop with all the accessories you need to turn your outdoors into a designer showpiece

**A**ll things brash and mass-produced may be the stuff of the average garden centre, but The Garden Studio reflects the current renaissance of the artisan. Its hand-crafted replicas of old designs include terracotta pots and edging tiles, stoneware statuary and urns, brass sun-dials, steel watering cans and traditional wooden wheelbarrows and chunky old rakes. There are some unusual accessories such as wonky wooden wheelbarrows and chunky old rakes. There are top-quality modern tools and thoroughly frivolous modern sculptures.

Proprietor Sean Flynn came into the gardening trade quite by chance three years ago. He had just acquired pretty Victorian premises in Columbia Road, east London, on returning from a stint making corporate videos in Saudi Arabia. It was when he discovered the highly fashionable Sunday flower market booming on his doorstep that the idea for a more creative type of gardening shop dawned, and after surveying prospective competitors he became a man with a mission.

"When you've seen one garden centre, you've seen them all," he says. "I couldn't get over how little choice they offered. And as for the statuary, it was just a collection of badly made concrete clichés. I thought of all those talented people I knew working around the country, making wonderful things — furniture-makers, wood-carvers, sculptors and potters. I put the word around, people sent in their portfolios, and this is the result."

After extensive renovations, The Garden Studio opened officially to the public last year. The shop's bare brick walls and faded wooden floorboards set a rustic tone, and yet the modern designs seem equally at home. As well as ornate replicas of antique cast-iron benches (such as the 19th-century Carron, and a flamboyant, fan-backed stool), there is a fashionably stark neo-Gothic line in made-to-measure steel furniture. Oval tables which open out to become circular are made of teak or English oak.

"I like to see wood, metal and

stone in a natural-looking state," Mr Flynn says, dismissing the garden centre penchant for plastic-dipped metal and glossy paint finishes. Outside in his back yard, various metal accessories are mercifully rusting round the edges and acquiring a respectably aged appearance.

Stoneware is also subjected to the back-yard ageing process, and there are usually several ready-weathered items from the Haddonstone range of reconstructed stone, such as a huge Hadrian vase, or a small, wall-mounted fountain-head. "Lichens and mosses steer well clear of cement, but they make a baseline for reconstructed stone. It weathers beautifully without disintegrating like natural stone," he says, pointing out some rock-solid tubs and troughs with medieval motifs.

**S**maller stoneware items include sculpted wall planters bearing ancient gods' faces, and an elegant collection of round-bottomed water jars, with plaited coils as stands. Both are by Karen Stoltzman, one of the craftsmen who has "head-hunted".

In terracotta, too, The Garden Studio is giving traditional designs a new, high-quality lease of life. The new Windsor Collection is Mr Flynn's greatest coup so far. He approached Windsor Castle about buying the redundant old terracotta wares. Most were disposed of through the trade and made a big splash at London's Fine Art & Antiques Fair earlier this summer.

However, he kept back prime samples of the old long Tom flowerpots (tall and gently tapered) and square seed trays to produce replicas.

"We spent many months and got through several potters before managing to recreate the authentic look and feel," he says. "The originals are delicate and light. They could almost be made of glass, and yet they're tough enough to be still around a century or so later. There are potters all over England producing what they call long Toms,

but to me they're too heavy, or too thick, or that critical shaping of the sides is wrong. All ours are handmade in exactly the same way as the originals, and at last we've got them down to a T."

Nothing can match Mr Flynn's adoration of the long Tom, but the "own-label" old-fashioned watering-cans come a close second. Hand-crafted in heavy-duty steel with brass roses and optional trimmings, they look good and are built to survive the elements.

By contrast, the wacky plaster sculptures are not designed to last forever outside, but what they lack in durability they make up for in originality. Mr Flynn favours works by unknowns, before they hit the galleries and the high prices. One-offs and limited editions come and go, and on my visit works by Marina O'Sullivan, an Irish sculptor, were the least conventional: angular psychedelic pots, and a bulldog figure with a megaphone head, entitled *Parish Dogma*. There are also works by the sculptor Jo Hull, including a giant gilded snail collection.

• The Garden Studio, 146 Columbia Road, London E2 7RG (071-612 2424). Open Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, 9am-5pm. Prices: Windsor Collection pots, £250-£25; modern sculpture, £300-£3,000; watering cans, £15-£40; cast iron benches, £300-£500; oval tables (made to order), £500-£1,000.

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## SUNDAY TELEVISION AND RADIO

## BBC1

- 6.45 Open University: Plant Growth Regulators: Whatever Turns You On (5324859) 7.10 Maths: Modelling Drug Therapy (5234472) 7.35 Chardin and the Female Image (5381439) 8.00 Urban Development: Gainers and Losers (5822101) 8.25 Physics Beyond Experience (8119052)**
- 8.50 Playdays (r) (2062101) 9.10 News and weather (2494255) 9.15 Summer Sunday: A service from Cheshunt - World of Adventures in Surrey (s) (5907897)**
- 10.00 Show Extra: Bassar presented by Nelly Hughes. Includes news of the competition launched at this year's BDA Conference to find a new deaf playwright. With signing and subtitles (r) (61594)**
- 10.30 Student Choice (92) Nicky Campbell and Carmen Price present a guide to courses, resulting examinations and college life (s) (28474)**
- 11.30 Bird's Eye View: Isle Fall - Isle of Devon: The story of a journey around Ireland by the writer James Plunkett. With readings by T.P. McKenna, Richard Pasco and Sir John Betjeman (r) (75156)**
- 12.30 Countryfile: John Craven presents rural news and views (1641168) 12.55 Weather (5131954)**
- 1.00 News (72413526) followed by The High Chaparral. Classic western series. Buck's (Cameron Mitchell) decision to escape from the rigours of ranch life backfires (r) (5163120)**
- 2.00 EastEnders: Omnibus edition (r). (Ceefax) (s) (42323)**
- 3.00 Eldorado (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5174)**
- 3.30 Film: The Sheriff of Fractured Jaw (1958). Kenneth More stars in the comedy western about a bold gunsmith who, after reading about gunfights in The Times, decides to sell his wares in the wild west. Directed by Raoul Walsh (496588) 5.10 Cartoon (5061014)**
- 5.20 Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories: The Sister. Two young tearaways meet their match in a new Jamaican baby-sitter. (Ceefax) (s) (9108946)**
- 5.45 Film: Design of Desires of Desire. Tom Vernon continues his search for European style. This week he sets out to discover how our taste in furniture is formed. (Ceefax) (645859)**
- 6.15 Offside. Alan Titchmarsh appears on behalf of Telephones for the Blind (6395675) 6.25 News with Mollie Stuart. Weather (765439)**
- 6.40 Songs: Praise from the Giant's Causeway, off the coast of County Antrim. (Ceefax) (s) (910852)**
- 7.15 The Two Ronnies: Vile comedy, sketches and music from Messrs Corbett and Barker (s) (Ceefax) (1564911)**
- 8.05 Film: Dinner at Eight (1939). Starring cast remake of George Cukor's 1933 comedy about New York society. A leading Park Avenue hostess is given a week's notice to organise a grand dinner party. Starring Lauren Bacall, Marsha Mason and Charles Durning. Directed by Ron Lagomarsino. (Ceefax) (1053526)**
- 9.45 News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Weather (163439)**



Strength and courage: Jason Hayhoe and family (10.05pm)

- 10.00 Everyman: Living for Jason**
- CHOICE: The new series of Everyman opens with the story of Wendy and Martin Hayhoe who have to deal with a predicament any parent must dread. Their son Jason has a rare and incurable disease, shared by only five other children in the country, which means that he is condemned to an early death. The wonder is that he has survived so long, but at four and a half he cannot walk or talk, has to be fed and is kept alive only by huge doses of drugs. His parents had the chance to let him slip away but could not bring themselves to do it. Sympathetic care at a children's hospice has helped to ease Wendy and Martin's burden but they must still face the fact that Jason may die at any time. They do so with strength and courage and an admirable lack of bitterness. (Ceefax) (650052)
- 10.40 Film: Mass Appeal (1984). Adaptation of Bill C. Davis' Broadway play with Jack Lemmon in prime form as a parish priest whose world is shattered by the arrival of a fiery young theology student. Directed by Glenn Jordan (12.15)**
- 12.15am Weather (1771163)**

## BBC2

- 6.35 Open University: Mathematical Models and Methods (5231149) 7.00 Modern Art: Greenberg on Pollock (5201276) 7.25 Cellular Growth (5220897) 7.50 Culture and Belief in Europe 1450-1800 (1098830) 8.15 Global Sea-Level (8111410) 8.40 Living with Technology (4101507) 9.05 The Regulation of Flowering (7882171) 9.30 Arts: A New Museum in South Kensington (9883101) 9.55 Dating a Granite (6453120) 10.10 So You Want to Be a Better Manager (1934694) 11.35 Mental Handicap: Moving On (5205039)**
- 12.00 Sunday Grandstand introduced by Bob Wilson. The line-up is: 12.00, 1.30 Motor Cycling: Round four of the British Super Cup from Cadwell Park. Commentary by Barry Nutley and Steve Parish; 12.30, 2.45 and 4.45 Boxers: Walswick Outdoor singles final from Worthing. With commentary by Jeremy Davidson, David Rhys-Jones, David McGill and David Bryson; 3.45 Equestrian: British Open Horse Trials from Gatcombe Park. Commentary by Raymond Brooks-Ward and Michael Tucker (9317781)**
- 6.30 One Man and His Dog. Phil Driscoll introduces the second heat from Easdale Water in the Lake District. Ray Oldershaw provides the commentary (s) (655168)**
- 7.15 The Living Planet: The Frozen World. In the run-up of the award-winning Life Trilogy series, David Attenborough explores how plants and animals survive in Snow and Ice (r). (Ceefax) (154385)**



Relaxing with two friends: Father Francis O'Leary (midday)

- 8.10 Our Wilma. The Alan Bennett season continues with a typically funny piece from 1982. Eric usually drives Cora, Wilma and Auntie Edie to the cemetery. However, his enthusiasm is damped by his cub aqua-gear. The story concerns students' and Wilma's continual indiscretions. Starring Elizabeth Spriggs, Constance Chapman and Sheila Kelley (r) (762472)**
- 8.50 Horizon Special: Hide and Seek**
- CHOICE: As President Bush prepares to bomb Iraq, or not as the case may be, the timely one-off from Horizon charts the attempts by the United Nations' team to track down Saddam Hussein's secret arsenal. The UN sent in its special commission after the Gulf war with the task of finding and eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. Footage from UN video reveals how the mission became an elaborate game of hide and seek, leading to tense confrontations and almost to another war. The film also shows the destruction of Iraq's supergun, reveals the extent of the nuclear facility in Tuwaitha and gives an inside view of the world's largest toxic chemical plant. Two questions remain: How was this huge weapons programme allowed to go undiscovered for so long? And is there more still hidden in the Iraqi desert? (432110)
- 9.40 Moviedrome. Alex Cox introduces Tragedy (1976). Bleak road movie starring Dennis Hopper as a US army sergeant escorting the coffin of an American soldier killed during the Vietnam war. Written and directed by Harry Jepson. (Ceefax) (521052)**
- 11.15 The Night Stalker: The Ripper. Investigative journalist Carl Kolchak (Daren McGavin) is on the trail of a mass murderer. Last in the present series (590491)**
- 12.05 News: Crime in the Streets (1957, b/w). The network television premiers of a bric-a-brac drama starring John Cassavetes. The leader of a teenage gang is bent on revenge but only two of his comrades are prepared to join him. With James Whitmore and Sal Mineo. Directed by Don Siegel (907686). Ends at 1.40**

- SATELLITE**
- SKY ONE**
- Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites  
6.00 News of the World (44878) 7.00 Fun and Games (51378) 7.30 The Weather (50728) 8.00 News (47443) 12.00 Lost in Space (448588) 1.00am Chopper Squad (55239) 2.00 Hart to Hart (75975) 3.00 Eight is Enough (58859) 4.00 Hotel (50694) 5.00 All About Eve (51379) 6.00 The Hunted (51379) 7.00 The Shadow (44857) 8.00 Captain and Kings: Mini series based on Taylor Caldwell's novel. The story of Joseph Amagh, an Irish immigrant who becomes a successful businessman in America. (r) (5) (62329) 10.00 Festival Crest (79830) 11.00 Entertainment - Tonight (13232) 12.00 Pages from Skylight (4791720)
- SKY MOVIES+**
- Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites  
6.00 Showbiz (55694)
- THE MOVIE CHANNEL**
- Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites  
6.00 Satin Sheets (55694)
- SKY NEWS**
- Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites  
6.00 News (55694)

- adventure with Brooks Shatto (83101)  
6.40 Magenta (1989) One of the director's best films (s) (52526)
- 2.30 Roving Report (56743) 3.30 The Reports (75491) 4.30 These Were The Days (1546) 5.30 Life, Love and Death (51621) 6.30 The Last Picture Show (15897) 6.30 Target (74959) 6.20 Roving Report (27323) 7.00 The Octopus (1980) Chuck Norris saves steaks (75451)**
- 7.15 He Knows You're Alone (1980) A man's love for his wife is tested when she leaves him (24245)
- 7.45 Men Don't Leave (1970) Jessica Lange is a widow trying to live (360742)
- 8.45 Sweet Murder (1990) Two roommates fall out over men and money (249594) 8.50-9.00am FA Premier League Super Sunday (92856)
- 9.00 TV Squash (1975) 10.45 TV Squash (912033) 11.15-12.30am The Monarch (519946)

- SKY SPORTS**
- Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites  
6.30 Tennis Fishing the West (1878) 7.00 ATP Tennis (20497) 7.30 Culture and Sports (50945)
- 7.00 Boxing (1976) Sylvester Stallone dreams of becoming the world heavyweight champion (200945)**
- 7.30 Roger Daltrey (1980) Roger Daltrey and his father star helping his son's band (56591)
- 7.45 The Octopus (1980) Chuck Norris saves steaks (75451)
- 7.50 He Knows You're Alone (1980) A man's love for his wife is tested when she leaves him (24245)
- 7.55 Target (74959) 8.00 White Water (249594) 8.50-9.00am FA Premier League Super Sunday (92856)
- 9.00 TV Squash (1975) 10.45 TV Squash (912033) 11.15-12.30am The Monarch (519946)

- THE COMEDY CHANNEL**
- Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites  
6.00 Satin Sheets (55694)

- 10.15 The Roaring Twenties (1929, b/w) James Capone becomes embroiled in the New York underworld (252520)
- 10.15 You Can't Take It With You (1938) The Wrights are an eccentric household (24245)
- 12.30pm The Spirit is Willing (1967) A family spend the summer in a haunted house (357946)

- 2.15 Appointment with Danger (1949) A police officer targets killers (504010)

- 4.15 The Blue Bird (1940, b/w) Shirley Temple stars in this fairy tale (363887)

- 6.15 The Wizard of Oz (1939) A boy goes to see his grandparents in Oz (41514)

- 6.15 Steel Magnolias (1989) The lives of six women cross at the beauty parlour, with Shirley MacLaine and Dolly Parton (785656)

- 7.45 Silhouettes (1981) A gift becomes a horrific killer (224887)

- 8.15 Silhouettes (1981) Faye Dunaway witnesses a murder (419332)

- 8.45 Who Shot Jethro (1950) A boy isn't last few days at high school go wrong (004922)

- 9.20 The Rose Garden (1989) A man agrees another of being a Nazi commander of a death camp (6581713) Ends at 7.00pm

- THE COMEDY CHANNEL**

- Via the Astra satellites

- 6.00 Satin Sheets (55694)

- 7.00 The Comedy Channel

- 8.00 Showbiz (55694)

- 9.00 International

- 10.00 Satin Sheets (55694)

- 11.00 The Comedy Channel

- 12.00 News (55694)

- 13.00 The Comedy Channel

- 14.00 Satin Sheets (55694)

- 15.00 The Comedy Channel

- 16.00 News (55694)

- 17.00 The Comedy Channel

- 18.00 Satin Sheets (55694)

- 19.00 The Comedy Channel

- 20.00 News (55694)

- 21.00 The Comedy Channel

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- 65.00 The Comedy Channel

- 66.00 News (55694)



# BUSINESS TIMES

SATURDAY AUGUST 22 1992

15

SPORT  
24-30

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

## WEEKEND MONEY

### Profile

Peter Bonfield, chairman and chief executive of ICL, is not a man of the establishment and he does not care. What he cares more about is that while his rivals are tightening their belts and suffering the effects of recession, he is presiding over a profitable computer company, which came back from the brink of bankruptcy ten years ago..... Page 17



### Cutting glass

Waterford Wedgwood, the glass and china group, is laying off 500 workers and cutting all salaries in its loss-making operations in Ireland as a result of recurring losses..... Page 15

### Postal rates

Three more building societies have launched postal savings accounts this week, into an already proliferating market. These accounts often offer the best rates with minimum risk..... Page 20



### Royal battle

Carol Wells and her husband, Paul, have won a 14-month battle with Royal Life, after they were sold the wrong type of investment policy, leaving them locked into paying premiums until 2036. They are now promised all their premiums back with interest. When Mrs Wells asked a Royal Life agent for advice on saving for seven years to build up a lump sum for her 16-year-old son, she was sold a insurance policy with cover that was neither needed nor requested..... Page 21



### Ailing policies

More policyholders have stopped paying critical illness premiums but will not get much of their money back. Companies are wooing customers with wider cover and lower premiums..... Page 21



### Youth move

The Halifax is to extend its 'maxim students' and young workers' package to new customers from Wednesday. They will be offered vouchers and interest free overdrafts up to £300..... Page 21

### Surveys binge

Banks are dialling 'S' for service and have started carrying out surveys of customers to find out what they think of their banks. Preventing staff from hanging up on customers is one measure..... Page 19

## Banks rescue Ratners after £122m losses

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

RATNERS, the jewellery chain, has been rescued by its bankers who have extended its £450 million loans until next June after the group plunged to a loss of £22 million in the year to end-January following disastrous trading before Christmas.

The group is undergoing a £98 million reorganisation which will lead to the closure of 330 stores in Britain and America and the loss of more than 2,000 jobs over the next three years.

Ratners' banks, led by Barclays, have agreed to extend its loans even though the group breached its borrowing agreements at the start of the year. The banks have relaxed the group's lending terms to allow it to continue trading but have demanded heavy new security for the loan extension and can recall their loans if the group fails to keep to the new agreement.

The new arrangement will also allow Ratners to repay its euroconvertible bond which becomes due at the end of October, at a cost of £58 million. This will take the company close to its £450 million borrowing limit although the group's cash flow is being boosted by its failure to pay dividends on any of its ordinary or preference shares since January. Ratners paid a 2.4p interim dividend last year.

Ratners' loss was in line with expectations and compares with a profit of £12 million last time. The group's British operations suffered an

operating loss of £16.6 million due to a 15 per cent fall in like-for-like sales. The American operations made an £18 million profit.

The losses were mainly caused by interest charges of £26.8 million, up 21 per cent, and exceptional reorganisation charges of £9.8 million.

The charges include £4.7 million for branch closures, £7.3 million in stock write-downs, and £10.2 million provision against the value of the employee share ownership plan.

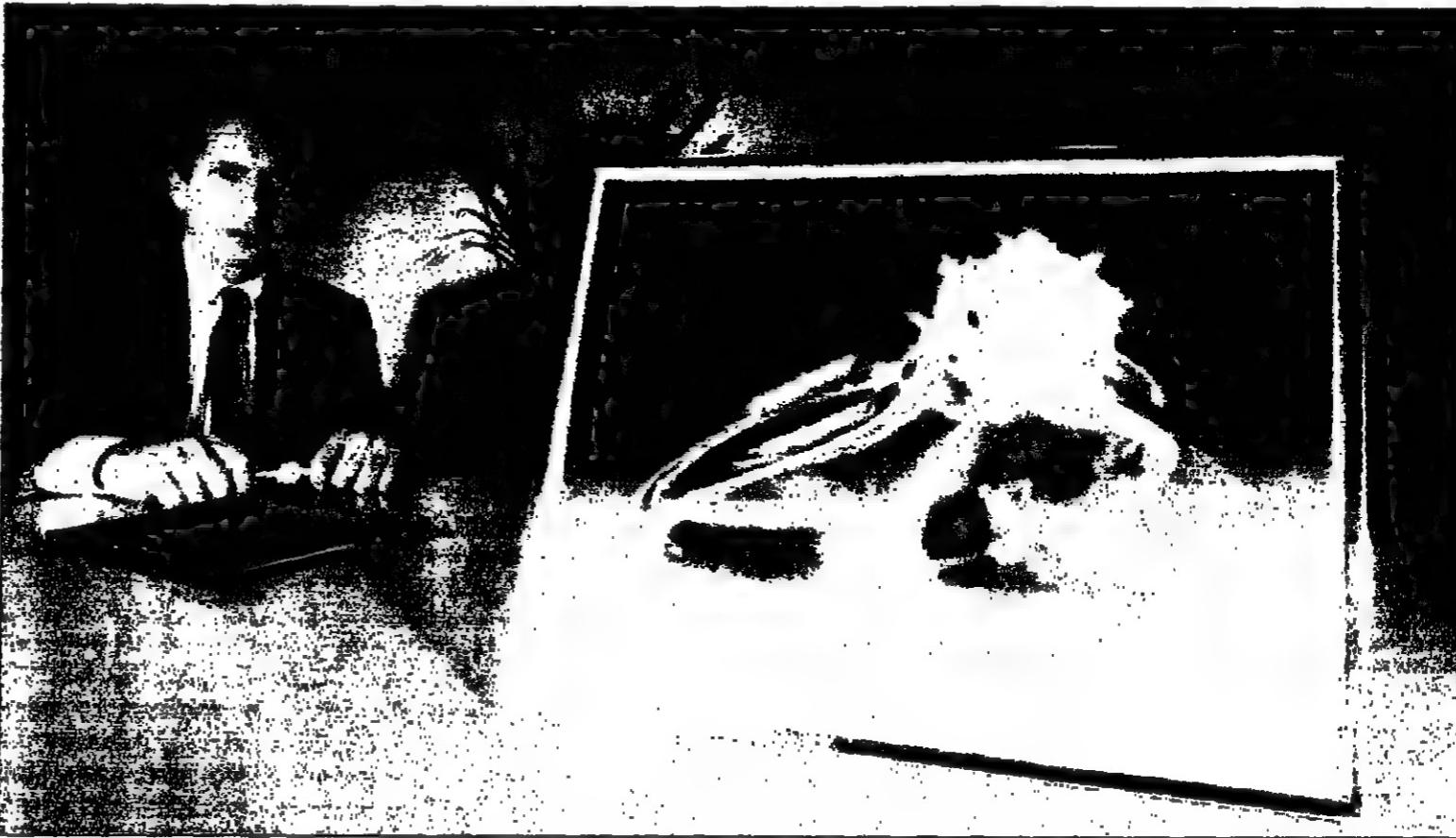
The Ratners jewellery stores were worst affected by the recession and sales fell 24 per cent. Aggressive promotions and discounting failed to attract more customers as the recession curbed pre-Christmas spending when the group generates a high proportion of its profit for the year.

The group also admitted that the notorious speech by Gerald Ratner, the chief executive, to the Institute of Directors' annual conference, in which he described one of the group's products as "total crap", contributed to the decline. H Samuel and Ernest Jones, the group's other main jewellery chains, suffered a smaller fall in sales.

The planned closures will hit Ratners hardest and the group plans to close 112 of the most unprofitable stores, leaving only 135 in the largest towns and cities. The group also expects to shut 44 Ernest Jones shops and 22 H Samuel sites. In America the group forecasts 150 closures.

Mr Ratner admitted yesterday:

Dazzle fades. page 16



Cuts in store: Gerald Ratner, chief executive, will see up to 330 shops and 2,000 jobs go during the company's £98 million reorganisation

## Dollar slides to postwar low against mark

By GRAHAM SHARJANT  
FINANCIAL EDITOR

CENTRAL banks failed to halt the dollar's slide to a post-war low against the mark after a hectic day of costly trench warfare against investors and speculators on the foreign exchanges. The dollar eventually tumbled to DM1.4278, more than 1.5 pence below its previous worst.

In the process, sterling lost further ground against the German currency in the European exchange-rate mechanism, passing the threshold at which governments are pre-

sumed, under the rules of the ERM, to take action to stabilise their currency. There-

after, sterling continued to fall against the mark, touching DM2.7975, another new low since ERM entry. Sterling

continued to rise against the dollar, however, gaining 2.3 cents to \$1.9590.

The failure of central banks to stop the dollar's headlong fall, combined with tensions in the ERM, threaten the worst bout of instability seen in foreign exchange markets since the autumn of 1987. In that case, the lack of policy responses by governments led to the crash in world stock markets. A routine meeting of finance ministers of the Group of 7 leading industrial countries next week is likely to be upgraded in an attempt to

persuade the German government to raise taxes.

Seventeen central banks in North America and Europe had bought dollars and sold marks in at least five separate rounds of co-ordinated intervention yesterday afternoon, after the dollar had slipped to DM1.4470, less than half a pence above its then lowest.

Heavy buying by the New York Federal Reserve and other banks initially caught the markets by surprise, lifting the dollar to about DM1.4600.

The price collapsed, however, as more sellers appeared, mainly from America and Switzerland, and successive bouts of official buying had less and less effect.

fall reversed this, pushing the Dow Jones index down 34.85 points to 3,270.04 by mid-afternoon in New York.

Sterling had fallen slightly to DM2.8058 when the last ERM grid was calculated, at which the pound was diverging by 76 per cent of its permitted range against the ecu, just beyond the 75 per cent threshold at which governments are nominally supposed to take corrective action.

Later falls left sterling within two pence of its permitted low against the mark of DM2.7780. Had the central banks managed to support the dollar against the mark, they might also have eased pressure on the pound.

## Manders escapes Kalon hostile bid

By COLIN CAMPBELL

MANDERS, the paint, ink and property company, yesterday retained its independence when at 1pm the hostile £85.7 million takeover bid from Kalon Group lapsed.

Kalon said it had attracted only 21.2 per cent of Manders' capital, an outcome that was "disappointing".

A statement by British Steel Pension Fund, made well before yesterday's final closing date, that it would not accept the bid did not help Kalon's cause.

Neither side has indicated the costs of the bid. Manders' shares fell 2.5p to 186p. Kalon's rose 0.5p to 82.5p.

Manders said that it was grateful for the faith that shareholders had shown in its future. It looked forward to justifying that faith. "I warmly thank them for their support," Mr Amos said.

BSPF spoke for 22 per cent of Manders' equity. Other institutions followed its lead and also publicly declared they would not accept. This meant that various other sharehold-

## Barratt offers 8.5% fixed-rate mortgage

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

A THREE-year, fixed-rate mortgage at 8.5 per cent – at least two percentage points lower than most standard mortgage rates – is being offered by Barratt Developments to the buyers of its homes who exchange contracts before October 16. The offer applies to the first £50,000 on houses outside the South East and the first £60,000 of loans in the region.

The deal, announced by Sir Laurie Barratt, the chairman, is available to both buyers of Barratt-built properties and those taken in part exchange for Barratt homes. The last time mortgage rates from building societies were that low was in 1978. Standard mortgage rates are currently 10.65 to 11.25 per cent. The

move from Barratt, which sold 5,000 homes last year, is intended to help the housing market by restoring buyers' confidence.

The company said: "It follows the government's lack of response to growing industry concern that homebuyers are being penalised for failed economic policies."

Sir Laurie said: "Along with others in the building industry, I have called upon the Chancellor to reduce interest rates to help stimulate the housing market and lead the country out of recession."

"We have now decided to take the initiative ourselves. At a stroke, we have substantially reduced the mortgage rate applicable to Barratt housebuyers."

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## Where cash machines need wing mirrors

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON  
IN NEW YORK

UNLIKE in Britain, where bank customers are generally exposed to the elements while pulling paper rectangles from an often recalcitrant robot, operating automated teller machines (ATM) in New York is a much more security-conscious affair.

As a separate part of a bank branch, the machine is enclosed, air conditioned and designed to give privacy and shelter. Entry is gained by slipping your cash card into the door lock. Once in, the theory goes, you are safe from not only natural elements, but the criminal variety too.

New York City politicians do not believe this is enough and are debating local laws requiring banks to spend millions on new surveillance systems, locks and mirrors.



Proposals would demand a 24-hour video at and near the machine, the ATM lobby would have at least one glass door with a lock that would not open until a personal identification number was punched in. Mirrors would enable customers to see who was waiting behind them. Some politicians are even calling for a security guard on the premises. New York ATM etiquette requires at least four

Brooklyn and a police officer was killed in mid-town attempting to prevent a robbery at another. The city says there were 143 recorded ATM robberies last year and many more unreported.

In Chicago, a 24-year-old woman was accosted in her home and forced to withdraw \$400 from a cash machine before she was shot in the head and subsequently died. Chicago requires restricted ATM hours and a panic button in the lobbies. In California, several people have been murdered either after they have been to, or been abducted from, ATMs.

Despite all the current security, entry locks can now be opened with any kind of magnetised card. The comforts of the lobby also provide excellent shelter for New York's homeless, who often follow you in anyway.

# Troubled Waterford to cut pay and jobs

By RODNEY HOBSON

RECURRING losses have brought drastic action at Waterford, the Irish half of Waterford Wedgwood, the glass and china group.

Paddy Galvin, Waterford chief executive, who has been strengthening his control of the board, has turned his attention to the unions with a five-point plan to cut costs. He wants to shed 500 jobs, bring in lower piece rates for craft workers; cut pay; freeze it until February 1994; and exact a promise of no industrial action for at least five years.

He also proposes changes to the sickness benefit scheme and a streamlining of manufacturing. The proposals affect

## Creditors of O&Y cautious on offer

By ANGELA MACKAY

CREDITORS of Olympia & York Developments responded cautiously yesterday to the company's restructuring proposals to meet obligations on its \$1 billion debt.

Bankers were pleased by a pledge from the Reichmanns, the Canadian company's founders, stating the family was prepared to surrender voting control of the company. The family also offered to transfer its 20 per cent interest in O&Y's US real estate operations, which are not facing bankruptcy, and ownership of Canadian properties worth more than C\$100 million.

Some lenders were concerned that the individually packaged plans offered to 27 of the group's creditors did not treat all fairly. The "plan of compromise" was filed overnight with Canadian courts but will not be finalised for several months.

It does not request new funds but provides that debt maturities applying to project lenders will be extended by five years with O&Y receiving a management fee for operating core office buildings. Other lenders will initially receive 49 per cent of O&Y Development's equity. At the end of the five year period, any remaining unsecured debt would be converted into additional equity not exceeding 80 per cent of the company.

Gerald Greenwald, O&Y's president, said the company was close to agreement with lenders to five of the company's 11 biggest Canadian projects. The plan does not affect Canary Wharf in London's Docklands.

the three factories around the Irish town of Waterford, where staff are already on short time. The job cuts will reduce the workforce there by more than a quarter, to 1,400.

Waterford has lost £680 million (£75.5 million) over the past four years. Wedgwood, the profitable English arm, is spared the cutbacks. It wants to shed 500 jobs, bring in lower piece rates for craft workers; cut pay; freeze it until February 1994; and exact a promise of no industrial action for at least five years.

He also proposes changes to the sickness benefit scheme and a streamlining of manufacturing. The proposals affect

Interim figures for the first half of 1992 are due in about three weeks' time. Under London Stock Exchange rules governing the release of price-sensitive information, the group refuses to say how sales have gone so far; they dropped by 5 per cent last year.

The shares were unchanged yesterday at 20p.

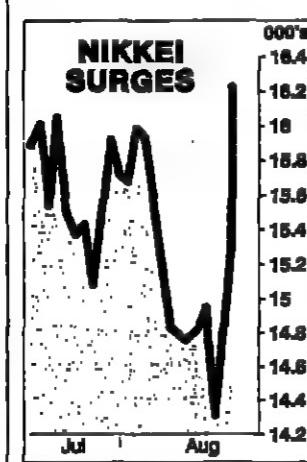
Waterford took over Wedgwood in 1986 but operations were split into two businesses, operating independently, at the end of 1990. There has been no dividend since 1988.

Waterford has been working a short week for the past two years to balance supply and demand. Some staff working only three days will move on to a full week as colleagues leave, so they will be better off. The hope is that some cuts will be achieved by voluntary redundancy.

The immediate reaction of Ireland's Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union was anger but not surprise. The union is particularly concerned at the sourcing of products abroad, particularly imports from Germany and Slovenia.

A Waterford spokesman said no percentage figure had been fixed for the pay cuts. It would be subject to negotiation but would affect everyone "from the chief executive to the postroom boy".

## Nikkei sustains three-day rally with rise of 950



TOKYO stocks extended their rally to a third consecutive day yesterday, sending the Nikkei average up 949.12 points, or 6.23 per cent, to end at 16,216.88.

Prices surged on technical and investment trust buying prompted by government moves to rescue the market, brokers said. An estimated 430 million shares were traded. The broader first section Topix index was up 44.76 points, or 7.28 per cent, to 614.53.

The Nikkei has gained 1,907.47 points since Tuesday, when the government

disclosed measures intended to counter a big share sale by banks and to restore confidence in Japan's financial system. Yesterday marked the second-largest Nikkei rally in a single day this year.

A foreign broker said: "The higher the Nikkei goes, the harder it is to remain sceptical about the market having hit bottom. The rally becomes self-fulfilling as it forces people to cover their short positions."

Brokers said one key to the rally was a local newspaper report that life insurers, the market's biggest institutional investors, planned to set up a

company to buy up shares. This speculation comes after an idea from the finance ministry to create a unit to buy real estate held by banks as collateral against their non-performing loans. Brokers said that support for the idea from Yasushi Mieno, governor of the Bank of Japan (BoJ), on Wednesday also fuelled the rally.

They said relatively light volume and an absence of sellers helped exaggerate the rally. "The market's general trend seems to be bottoming out, but we cannot be sure until the market runs into

some heavy selling pressure and shows that it is able to absorb it," said Kenzo Doi, an analyst at Kokusai Securities.

Another factor is the economic package the government is expected to announce next week. Toranobu Sugai, of Lehman Brothers, said: "People have high expectations that the package will contain some more good news for the market." Economists said expectations of a credit easing by the bank were enhanced by July's record low money supply growth.

Stock market, page 18

## Last lap approaches in Cowie bid for Henlys



Clock is running: Michael Doherty, Henlys chairman left, and Robert Wood

### Stores

IT WOULD be easy to overestimate the trauma at Ratners as a pointer to the fortunes of the retail sector generally. In truth, Ratners ran out of options long ago. The collapse of its share price ruled out any hope of an equity issue, even if there had been any residual enthusiasm for the stock after

the self-inflicted wounds of the recent past. The banks have held the whip hand for some time, but there was little chance they would withdraw support. They will do far better by allowing Ratners to trade through the Christmas period when the bulk of profits arise and the savage cost cutting programme should bring a return to profitability in the 1993-4 financial

year. The Ratners rescue underlines the self-evident reality that times are hard in the high street. It does not indicate deterioration. Stores groups have been working in austerity mode against a background of weak consumer confidence. But staff costs are rising slowly now and the rental inflation of recent years is all but worked out of the system. Until demand recovers,

## Lloyd's starts building its new-look council

THE restructuring of senior management of Lloyd's, the insurance market, began yesterday with a request for nominations for the five vacancies on the smaller ruling council. Under recommendations of the Morse working party report, the size of the council is to be reduced from 28 to 16 by January 1993. Phase one involves eight of the current 12 working members of the council standing down, including David Coleridge, the current chairman, and John Grieg and Richard Hazel, deputy chairmen.

Elections this year will be for four working members and one external member. One of the elected working members is almost certain to be David Rowland, chairman of the Sedgwick broking group, who has been nominated by Mr Coleridge to serve as the next chairman of Lloyd's. Under current legislation, Mr Rowland must first be elected as a working member of the council. Results will be announced on November 25.

## Lex import deal ends

LEX Service said that Volvo Car Corp, the AB Volvo subsidiary, will take over importing Volvo cars and parts into the Irish Republic from Lex. The deal will prematurely end Lex's import concession. Earlier this year, Volvo took over Lex's UK import concession. Volvo Car Ireland, a new company, will distribute Volvo cars in the Irish Republic using the existing dealer network. Staff at Lex's VOCS Ireland will transfer to the new company. Completion of the agreement is expected before the end of the month, subject to relevant approval by the European Community.

## Sell-offs lift Electrolux

ELECTROLUX, the Swedish home appliance maker, reported a first half profit of 755 million krona (£74 million), after net financial items, exceeding analyst expectations of around £46 million. In the first half last year, it made a £6.917 million profit. Results this time included a 184 million krona profit from sales of some commercial service units. "Excluding this, the result after financial items increased 3 per cent", Electrolux said. There is no full-year profit forecast but "Uncertainty regarding market trends during the second half has increased in recent months."

## Moran is suspended

MORAN Holdings, an obscure company with interests in tea production and freight forwarding, has been brought to its knees by an unwise foray into property development. Shares in the thinly traded company were suspended yesterday morning before a statement confirming that the group has applied to be placed in the hands of administrators from Touche Ross. The company has received a proposal from a third party about a capital reconstruction scheme, which has been recommended by the board of Moran.

## Northamber loss grows

PROVISIONS against stock and debtors helped to push Northamber, the computer distributor, into a £2.7 million pre-tax loss in the year to April (£1.6 million loss). The dividend is 0.5p (2.5p) but the group ended the year debt-free and with £1.3 million in cash. The shares fell 2p to 41p. David Phillips, chairman, said: "The very difficult conditions continued to affect our performance during the traditionally better second half." The improvement in total sales to £93.1 million (£90.1 million) was a sound performance, he said.

## Gatt talks hope

ARTHUR Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), said there was "still hope" for the long delayed Uruguay Round multilateral world trade talks. After meeting Marcello Marques Moreira, Brazilian economy minister, and Celso Lafer, foreign relations minister, he said: "It would be inconceivable that the negotiations should not be successful." Mr Dunkel is in Brazil on a three-day visit to meet leading government officials.

## GM cuts output

PESSIMISM about the pace of the American recovery is believed to have prompted General Motors to cut car and truck production by 100,000 in the final three months of this year. GM, America's largest carmaker, which is slowly crawling out of the red declined to comment, but says production between October and December will be higher than last year's 673,000. However, industry sources say that figure is 100,000 below what GM had planned to produce when it drew up fourth-quarter production plans in June.

### RECENT ISSUES

	000s
Birley (100)	92
Broadgate Inv Trust (100)	101
Dartmoor Inv Trt Warrants	8
Dwyer A	19
Euro Smr Cos (300)	470
Firstbury Smr Cos 0 Pft	147
HSBC 75p	316
KI Wndt Plcy (100)	100
Quality Care Hms (136)	181
TK Technology Units	1700
Taunton Cider 10p (140)	164

### RIGHTS ISSUES

Beckmen Sp n/p (9)	4
Cavendish Ip n/p (6)	4
Channel 5p a/p (20)	4
Cray Electronics n/p (6)	4
Worthington 10p n/p (13)	14

### MAJOR CHANGES

RISSES:	
Williams Holdings	250p (+70)
Wellcome	822p (+20p)
Tl	278p (+70)
Reuters	1044p (+11p)
Rank Org	536p (+90)
Inchcape	403p (+170)
Reed Int	480p (+120)
Antaristaga	640p (+70)
Independent	353p (+15p)
Liberty Life	675p (+17p)
Shenwood Group	1230p (+11p)
FALLS:	
Hartstone	154p (-15p)
Telegraph (325)	290
Throg 1000 Smr Co Wts	14
Yorkshire TV Warrants	10

### Closing Prices Page 23

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### THE SUNDAY TIMES

Hey Rocco, I see your handicap is down from 16 to 12 and your swing looks better than ever," the golfer said.  
"That's just as well," Rocco Forte replied. "Because the way our share price is falling, I might have to turn to this to make a living..."

*Business — The Sunday Times tomorrow*

the low risk stocks, such as M&S, Boots and GUS, will continue to be favoured. Sooner or later, though, the sector will see some bargain hunting among its weaker vessels. For they will become the recovery shares everyone will want once the economy has turned. The fall from grace on Wall Street of last year's darling pharmaceuticals, in favour of cyclical, is a process which will occur in some form in London at an early recovery phase in the next stock market cycle, with some demand for shares like Burton, among the worst sufferers in the downswing.

Burton has been leaking cash and there may be a modest outflow in 1992-3 too, but the property risks have been capped. Cost pressures are easing slowly and though profits will be minimal in 1991-2, they are highly geared to extra volumes. At 33½ p, the shares have done nothing since the 1991 rights issue at 30p. They will become a speculative recovery stock in the medium term.

MFI is another bottom fishing stock. Modestly rated but still unloved through its exposure to the massively depressed housing market, its vertical integration almost guarantees a sustained price advantage and gearing is falling sharply. Worth buying at 11½ p on a sub-market earnings multiple of 12.

## BUSINESS PROFILE: Peter Bonfield

# Logician who guided ICL back to profit

The man who has run the computer firm for a decade is as calculating as his machines, reports Carol Leonard

If Peter Bonfield, the chairman and chief executive of ICL, were to walk into a room containing a dozen captains of British industry, he would not be recognised. If he were introduced, his interest in him would be fleeting and the impression he left

Bonfield, 48, bearded, 5ft 10ins tall and with a curious mid-Atlantic accent that belies his Baldock, Hertfordshire, upbringing, is not a man of the establishment. He would not be accepted by it and he would not care.

Yet, while most establishment businessmen are consoling one another over the state of the economy, the plight of their business and the losses they are notching up, Bonfield presides over a profitable company and he is optimistic about the future. His achievements have gone largely unnoticed. He hit the headlines briefly, in 1990, when he agreed to sell 80 per cent of ICL, once Britain's sole hope in the international mainframe computer industry, to Fujitsu, the Japanese conglomerate. That publicity was almost entirely negative, with the press, public and politicians criticising him for selling out.

Bonfield, reminded of the criticism, recalls that most informed observers once doubted that ICL had any future at all. The sale to Fujitsu was "a good deal for the shareholders," he says, "and it was a good deal in terms of making sure ICL had a long-term future. The credibility of the company went up enormously."

When Bonfield joined ICL as an executive director in 1981, leaving a secure job with Texas Instruments to do so, the British company was, he says, almost bankrupt. "It lost £75 million that year. My friends in the States thought coming here was a very odd thing to do. They had never heard of ICL and things were pretty hairy. I saw my

wife twice in the first year. Our customers were beginning to get alarmed that we would not survive and I had to spend a lot of time just going round reassuring them."

He admits that he takes "some degree of pride" in the fact that ICL — which employs 26,000 people — can stand "shoulder to shoulder with any company, anywhere in the world" and says his remaining ambition is to refloat ICL on the UK stock market by 1994-5. "We have said we won't float unless we can get £2.25 a share, which would value the company at £1.2 billion. I want to prove that UK technology companies can be world class." That price would give Fujitsu a 40 per cent return on its investment.

Once that has been achieved, Bonfield says, he will resign. "I've been the chief executive since I was 39 and I don't want to block the way for all the young people in the company." ICL was sold to STC in 1984, before being bought by Fujitsu; STC's new owner, Northern Telecom of Canada, retained a 20 per cent interest. The company made operating profits of £78 million from £1.87 billion of turnover in 1991 and increased its mar-

ket share in the UK, its largest market. Sales this year have risen to about £2.5 billion and ICL is still on target to make a profit, although Bonfield admits it is suffering from the recession. "My feeling is that the recession is getting worse and we are just fighting like hell to offset its effects... but I think the government has got to hang on in there and let the situation play itself out. We shouldn't devalue or pull out of the EMS, we have just got to slug it out." He says he is not pessimistic about the UK market in the long term.

Bonfield is earnest and committed when he talks about business, even at times intense, and it is easy to see why he gets on well with his Japanese bosses. He regularly works 13-hour days, six or seven days a week, and says he "tries to avoid" holidays. Dr Nigel Horne, a partner at KPMG Management Consultancy and one of Bonfield's

**Bonfield works 13-hour days, six or seven days a week, and says he tries to avoid taking holidays**



Room at the top: Bonfield, at 48, says he wants to make way for younger people in the company

friends observes: "The Japanese like people who have done what they said they would do and Peter has always done what he says he will do. He is totally ruthless in an unemotional sense. Very few people would be prepared to draw up a business plan, say these are the consequences, and then see each point in the plan through, one by one, regardless of those consequences, but Peter would. If the plan said a department had to be

closed, Peter would close it, even if his best friend worked in that department. He would never let sentiment get in the way. He is not warm but he is good company and if you went to him with a personal problem he would be marvelous because he would analyse it with cold, clear logic."

Bonfield would not disagree. His father worked for 48 years at the British Tabulating Machinery factory, latterly part of ICL. Bonfield

closed it. "It was the right thing to do, so I just did it. For the people working in the plant it was aummer, but such is life."

The comment typifies Bonfield's business philosophy. He did not, he says, shed a tear when his father died — "I contained my sadness, some folks are like that, aren't they?" — and he cannot remember when he last cried. "Emotional," he echoes. "My wife would say, absolutely not. I can't decide if that

is a compliment." He laughs and his eyes twinkle. His sense of humour is deadpan, self-deprecating and often misunderstood. He uses it to disguise social awkwardness.

He knows he does not have a best friend, other than his wife. After her, you would have to go down a long way," he mutters. Bonfield is a loner, self-sufficient but not shy. He enjoys, but does not need, the company of others. At cocktail parties, he overcomes his inability to make small talk — his manner is unerringly direct — by talking shop. "I sell computers," he says. "I can be very enthusiastic."

He met his wife Josephine when he was a trainee at Texas Instruments, having graduated with an engineering degree from Loughborough. She has become his alter ego. "We are pretty opposite," Bonfield says. "She is more people oriented, very kind and more sensitive than I am. Yes, I can be insensitive. Sometimes I just do not think." Bonfield insists he has no regrets, not even about the fact that he and his wife have had no children. "I'm a fatalist." He means what he says. As a schoolboy at Hitchin Grammar, he naturally assumed he

millionaire. "I've always been a paid employee, but having money does give you security and a different perspective when it comes to risk-taking, both corporately and privately."

Bonfield's track record on taking risks is impressive. He is competitive and likes to win. "I'm ruthlessly persistent. I will never give up, I just go at another way." He denies, however, that he is simply ruthless, and people who know him well agree. "I do approach things logically, but I also try to be objective and fair. I suppose we are all the result of our parentage and up-bringing. My father was logical and my mother has very fixed values about fairness and morality. I try to run the company in a fair way and some people do not like that." He does not have favourites, nor does he frequent male clubs or bars. He refuses, on principle, to belong to any club that would not admit his wife. "I'm not a man's man," he says.

His wife aside, women have had an important influence on Bonfield's life. Ask him about religion and he will tell you about the convent — "we were protestant but it was the best school in the area" — he attended before grammar school.

"This, actually, is the root of me," he suddenly declares. "The nuns taught me discipline. You had to have total respect for your elders and yourself. They did not allow any breach of conduct. I was

reprimanded all the time, for fighting in the street, all sorts of things. They used rulers on your hands. It is because of that that I always start meetings on time, get to work early and honour my commitments." He swears often — "a habit I picked up in Texas" — but never loses his temper.

Yet for someone so controlled, so disciplined, Bonfield is anything but stuffy and pretentious. He does not have the air of reserve so often cultivated by senior managers. He is Pete or Peter, his workforce, will happily stand up in front of 1,000 of my troops" but says he feels uncomfortable giving interviews of this kind. He flinches when asked how he met his wife. "I'm not sure how much I should talk about myself. You don't want to set yourself apart from other people working in the company. It just so happens that I am running the company at this point in time."

WEEK ENDING Joe Joseph

## Orwellian double-think as all is not what it appears to be



honesty, and integrity, and stressing that neither of these qualities was compromised by your renegeing on a vote-winning "new taxes" pledge and that what was comprised was merely voters' deficient up-reading abilities. You blame that on sloppy education standards, which you also promise to improve, but you blow it by getting Dan Quayle to write out the promissory note.

(g) A member of the Tamil Church in South Korea — which announced this week that the world will end on October 28 — preparing for doomsday by selling your assets and handing over the proceeds to the Tamil Church, which seems to believe in both the end of the world and the attractions of strong currency reserves?

(h) A financial adviser who is giving the Duchess of York tips on handling her investments and telling pressmen, "It's absurd to suggest there is

ing, why should that mean Mr Major doesn't hold him in the highest regard? And just because Texan millionaire John Bryan is canoodling with the Duchess of York on a sunbed, doesn't mean that he is not giving her the smartest possible financial advice.

Those in the City who have been smirking at Mr Bryan's style of imparting financial advice do not seem to realise that in Texas they are far ahead of Britain when it comes to financial regulation. What the SEC imposes today in America, SIB will impose on Britain tomorrow. Mr Bryan was conforming fully to current American practice for independent investment advisers. For those British financial advisers who like to stay one step ahead of the competition, here is a preview of current US best practice.

If your client asks for advice on offshore gilts, prop him up against a filing cabinet and peck his cheek. If he asks for details of gilts with suspiciously high returns, tell him you're not that kind of broker.

Life insurance queries must always be dealt with topless, preferably lying down and if possible sharing a cigarette with the client. (SEC footnote: the cigarette is not compulsory, but is regarded as a signal of long-term commitment by both sides.)

Endowment or repayment mortgage. Make clear the rival benefit of the two options by getting undressed and lying on top of your client. Then whisper the advice into the client's ear, endowment in the left ear, repayment in the right. This helps to keep the alternative facts and figures separate.

Stocks and shares advice should be dispensed while holding hands with clients and losing yourself in their eyes. Long bonds are best left to experts.

So in future, please don't be so suspicious. And always remember that sucking a client's toe is often the best way to build confidence. Among top-class financial advisers, there's one born every minute.

## De Beers discusses Namibia mine theft

By COLIN CAMPBELL  
MINING CORRESPONDENT

DE BEERS, which last week said diamond smuggling from Angola was running at between \$400 million and \$500 million, yesterday publicly admitted that there has been on-going theft at its CDM diamond mine in Namibia.

Julian Ogilvie Thompson, De Beers' chairman, is heading a De Beers team in talks with Namibian officials that concern "restructuring arrangements".

One aspect of the negotiations, which are being conducted in confidence, is an eventual equity participation by Namibia in De Beers' mine, whose operations stretch along the Namibian coastline in an area known as the Sperrgebiet, or "forbidden territory".

Rough diamonds are driven by wind and current on to land from the sea, and the area is open enough for rough diamonds to be found on the beach and in the rocks. The entire area — the surrounding desert, the sea and air space — is effectively sealed, but is not impervious to theft.

De Beers has historically paid substantial cash rewards for stones handed in to its mine officials.

Mr Ogilvie Thompson said he welcomed the government's support in reducing theft which, he added, had unfortunate effects on De Beers' government revenues, and on Namibia's foreign exchange earnings.

De Beers has not given any estimate on the value of rough diamonds it believes have been stolen from CDM, though there have in recent years been several successful prosecutions for illicit diamond buying.

Stocks and shares advice should be dispensed while holding hands with clients and losing yourself in their eyes. Long bonds are best left to experts.

Sam Nujoma, the president of Namibia, said that in "hammering out new arrangements with De Beers", he instructed Namibian officials to remain within the bounds of the constitution and the law at all times, and to be fair to the other party [De Beers].

## US may raise tariffs on China exports

PEKING: The US prepared a list of \$3.9 billion of Chinese exports which could incur tariffs after trade talks between the two countries ended with little progress yesterday.

Ira Wolf, America's assistant trade representative for China and Japan, speaking after three days of talks, said significant differences re-

mained on access to China's markets. He was expected to announce a list of Chinese goods which could be charged with tariff increases of up to 100 per cent unless agreement is reached by Washington's October 10 deadline.

"This is the largest such list the United States has ever published," he said. The talks

were part of a year-long US effort to force China to dismantle barriers or face retaliation under US trade laws.

The two sides are due to meet for at least two more rounds of talks before the deadline. The disagreement strikes at the heart of China's policy of building economic growth on exports. (Reuter)

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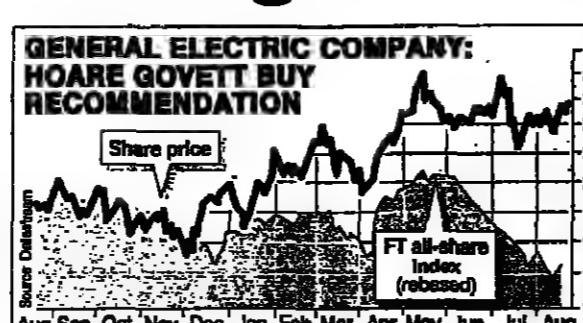
# Foreign exchanges unsettle shares

SHARES ended the volatile two-week account on a marginally upbeat note, lifted by another strong overnight rally in Tokyo, where the Nikkei surged 949 points, as well as early support from the futures market. However, an initial rally was short-lived, with prices unsettled as sterling dipped to new lows since joining the ERM in September 1990. The pound stood only two pence above its floor against the mark, prompting renewed fears of an interest rate rise.

An uncertain start on Wall Street eroded sentiment in London, with the FT-SE 100

index, which was up 16.9 points early on, closing 6.3 points higher at 2,365.7, up 15.6 points on the account. The FT index of 30 shares lost 2.1 points to 1,755.4. Volume reached 436.9 million shares.

Electricity and water utilities were in demand, with gains in the high-yielding stocks contributing to a substantial part of the rise in the FT-SE index. Gains were eroded, but advances included Anglian ahead 6p to 436p, Northumbrian 9p to 495p, North West 9p to 445p, Severn Trent 13p to 419p, Southern 12p to 407p, South West 14p to 423p, Thames 12p to 436p.



Welsh 9p to 461p, Wessex 12p to 516p and Yorkshire 9p to 475p.

Among the electricity shares Eastern surged 8p to 357p, Seaboard 7p to 319p, Southern 12p to 328p, South

West 13p to 320p and Yorkshire 10p to 367p. The electricity package rose £1.8 billion.

An attempt by Hoare Govett to place 1.3 million Tesco shares at 230p each was badly received, with the price losing 4p to 230p on a volume of 6.6 million shares, as the broker struggled to complete the placing.

A comprehensive review of GEC, 1p easier at 228p, by Jim Ross at Hoare Govett recommends buying up to the 250p level. Mr Ross says the share is attractive for a number of reasons, including next year's expected £1.8 billion

cash pile as well as a favourable return on capital employed and interest cover compared to others in Europe.

Wellcome was again in demand, with talk of a string of buy recommendations in the pipeline after recent meetings with brokers and the end of the "green shoe" share stabilisation scheme by Robert Fleming, the merchant bank that organised the share sale.

The shares added 20p to 822p, well above the 800p strike price of last month's £2.2 billion share issue.

Wills Coopers continued its slide from County NatWest put out a sell recommendation after Thursday's interim results. The shares fell 14p to 154p, making a two-day loss of 30p. Elsewhere, CE Health slipped 12p to 239p, JLB Group 4p to 107p, Lloyd Thompson 5p to 174p and Sedgwick 4p to 109p.

Under-Walkers, the printing

ink specialist, advanced 7p to

150p on the back of recent news that David Williams has been appointed chief executive, signalling further growth.

Applied Holographics

eased 8p to 100p despite a buy recommendation.

## Pound softens securities

THE tone for government securities was fairly quiet, although stocks proved to be a bit softer in the aftermath of sterling's weaker level.

A very thin morning saw most gilts trade at their overnight levels, although the shorts were a little bit easier on the back of the weak pound. Dealers said that intervention at lunchtime by the Bank of England and European and American banks failed to stop the decline, dragging longer dated securities lower. Gilt softened as short-term money rates hardened but were also easier ahead of next week's £2.5 billion auction.

The gilt future ended the day 12 ticks lower at 97 1/2p on a relatively quiet volume of 20,000 contracts. Elsewhere, Exchequer 94 per cent 1998 lost seven ticks to £101 at the shorter end and, among longer dated securities, Treasury 84 per cent 2017 fell 13 ticks to 98 9/16p.

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## PHILIP PANGALOS

### THE TIMES PORTFOLIO DEALING SERVICE

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- POSTAL PREMIUM 20
- ROYAL DISGRACE 21
- LETTERS 20
- CRITICAL SURRENDER 21

# WEEKEND MONEY

THE TIMES SATURDAY AUGUST 22 1992

Edited by Lindsay Cook

**M**atching homeless people with empty properties is difficult enough without banks, building societies and insurance companies creating further obstacles. Private landlords and local authorities are reporting that lenders are refusing loans when they take in tenants on social security and try to give them long leases.

Insurance companies have already come under fire from the government and landlords for making it difficult and expensive to get cover for buildings in which there are short-term tenants or those receiving benefits. This can happen when the buildings are owned by private landlords or local authorities.

Estate managers letting properties to local authorities say that banks and other lenders are reluctant to lend against homes that are being bought to house local authority tenants. But, unlike insurers, lenders want tenancies to be short. They do not want tenants with three-year leases even though rent is paid by the local authority.

What insurers and lenders have in

common, however, is an irrational mistrust of tenants receiving benefits. It makes it worse that insurers will not admit that they discriminate against such tenants. They say that they are a high risk because they are short term, with little incentive to look after property. Those trying to find cover are increasingly asked if their tenants are on benefits. If the answer is "yes" they are refused.

Private landlords are having cover withdrawn. One leading insurance company wrote to the owner of a Brighton guest house telling him "as soon as we at head office became aware that your guest house was taking in DSS tenants we exercised our option under the policy and wrote to you... advising that all cover will cease..."

Lenders are more forthcoming. One property company that buys property to let to local authorities for their tenants was told by lenders that

"they do not trust people on social security to treat the property well".

With unemployment figures increasing, involving people who would never have expected to claim dole, this is an absurd attitude. Just because someone loses their job and cannot afford their mortgage it does not mean they instantly start spraying walls with graffiti or breaking the windows. Many people housed by local authorities are working but lenders and insurers take fright at the idea of "council tenants".

Financial institutions need to be told firmly that they must not hinder

private or public sector efforts to find homes for people despairing of ever having a roof over their heads.

## Unconcerned

The majority of Pearl investors should at last know how much their policies were worth at the end of last year. After a three-month delay, the insurer finally got its act together and sent out 2.5 million bonus notices.

Not that the company seemed very concerned by the delay. Not all the

statements were delayed so that they did not think they had gone Avoil in the post. It really is not good enough. Some policyholders had begun to think the worst of Pearl. They know it was taken over by AMP three years ago and were dreading the arrival of a letter saying it had collapsed.

Those in the know may mock and wonder at such fears but many investors cannot differentiate between an organisation such as Pearl and the Bank of Credit and Commerce International. They have been unnecessarily worried because of the cavalier attitude of an organisation with its roots in home collection that ought to have been able to judge policyholders' feelings better.

Insurance companies have short-changed investors on service for too long. Just because policyholders are captive and face substantial losses if they try to leave poor service behind is no reason to treat them in this could-not-care-less manner. Pearl says the service will be back to normal next year and sounded pretty bored about the 2.5 million policyholders it kept waiting.

**Shorter queues, politeness and patience feature in customers' list of requirements**

## Banks binge on surveys in quest for better service

Lindsay Cook looks at the responses of millions of account holders questioned in attempts to improve branches' image

THE "S" word is creeping into banking. It is difficult to differentiate between the banks on products and prices, so service is the only area in which they can be competitive, they say.

The increasing number of complaints and the banks' fall from grace in the eyes of the public have also taken effect.

To find out exactly what type of service they should be providing, to put an end to years of ill-feeling, the banks have gone on a binge of surveying. Never before have customers' wishes and opinions had so much influence. They could even cost some branches their bonuses.

Two million National Westminster customers are being asked for their opinion on their branch, its service and the universe this year and every other year as part of the bank's "customer satisfaction index". Last month, Barclays Bank started to find out what one million customers want it to do. Lloyds Bank also chose July to start scoring each of its 1,906 branches on service. Every six months, 350 or more customers from each branch are sent a questionnaire. Midland extended its questionnaire to all branches in July and plans to ask 450,000 customers in branches and through mailings what they want. TSB has an ongoing tracking programme and writes regularly to all its 7.2 million customers.

So far, Lloyds has discovered that customers put "politeness and patience" at the top of their list of requirements from bank staff. Midland customers, on the other hand, are most concerned about queues. Lloyds has already programmed the telephone in its head office customer complaints division so that they cannot be put down on customers. Those receiving a muted response from their branch should also be aware that six times a quarter each branch is being telephoned by people posing as customers with enquiries. The more bizarre a genuine customer's enquiry, the more certain the staff will be that they are being checked out.

Midland started using "dummy" customers to visit branches in May. Barclays

also has fake customers doing the rounds of branches and telephoning staff. NatWest is considering checking out staff by telephone and branch visitors.

At Lloyds, staff are scored on the speed with which a telephone call is answered — within four rings is the target — and whether the caller is greeted with a salutation, the name of the bank and the location of the office. Staff should also give their names to customers readily and offer to help them.

Next month, Lloyds is ready to go public with the improvements in its service when it launches a new range of television advertisements. Its new queuing regime will be highlighted. The length of time spent in queues is the second most important feature of service, according to Lloyds customers. If branches are endeavouring to ensure there are never more people queuing than there are tills open, this means that each customer should feel they are next in line for one of the tills. If the queue gets longer, another till should be opened, then another, until the desired ratio is achieved.

NatWest customers at some central London branches say they want to wait in a queue for less than a minute before they are served. Ian McNeil,

**Those branches that fail to reach 65 per cent on the service quality index will not receive any incentive pay for reaching sales targets'**

head of quality service at the bank, said: "It is a real challenge to serve customers within a minute. In some branches we would need 50 tills. In the provinces, the expectations might be lower and customers might regard the service as really excellent if they are served within five minutes. We are looking at what we can do to reduce queues and to improve the perception of customers."

NatWest will be giving branches improvement targets to achieve. Lloyds has already scored each branch and is setting different standards for different areas in Scotland, it is difficult for any branch to visit



get more than 65 per cent — the minimum for all branches — because customers are not given to praising staff. In London, customers mark harshly but are realistic about what improvements can be provided, the bank says. One branch received a negative score but now has a new manager and the only way is up. Those branches that fail to reach 65 per cent on the service quality index each quarter may find it costly.

Civie Kenyon, head of Service Challenge, gave warning: "They will not get any incentive pay for reaching sales targets."

NatWest says it is not giving

says this reveals which areas are important to customers. Heavy revolving doors discourage some customers from entering or make it difficult for them to do so.

The banks are almost looking

forward to complaints to deal with Lloyds, in its guide to staff, says: "If we deal with that complaint quickly and professionally, then the customer's view of the bank will improve greatly. The customer is giving us a second chance to get things right rather than going to another bank. Let's make sure that we turn complaints to our advantage."

It goes on to tell staff not to interrupt customers when they are complaining nor to defend the bank or their colleagues, make excuses or blame the computer.

Each branch has to log all

complaints and how they are dealt with on separate forms.

A monthly total is sent to an agency for analysis. Mr Kenyon says complaints about loans are highest, at 20 to 25 per cent, almost double those for charges.

Lloyds is working towards a

customers' charter that could be launched during the latter half of next year. This would set times for services to be completed. For example, it might set a target of three days to arrange currency or travellers' cheques for customers and if they were not in the branch at the appointed hour the bank would forgo its commission.

The bank is also planning to

use its computer system to log information that will help it to

improve its service. It should be possible to list on every account details of how customers like to be contacted. Some customers like everything in writing while others ignore letters and prefer a call at their

office. This would make other customers uncomfortable if they thought their colleagues could overhear their personal financial details.

Lloyds says most customers

fear a visit from a bank

representative or salesman at home beforehand but afterwards say it is more relaxing than visiting a branch for a meeting.

It is also rationalising its product ranges as a result of the research. The full range of services that customers use should also be added to the computer files in branches. This should prevent customers receiving letters asking if they have considered saving when they have a savings account with the bank or have refused one already.

Brian Pearce, Midland

Bank's chief executive, wrote to all personal customers in June inviting them to reply to him about anything they wanted to bring to his attention. The bank was more than happy that analysis of the first batch of responses revealed that 20 per cent of the customers wanted to compliment the bank. Eighty per cent did not.

In its surveys and use of fake

customers should locate

branches with problems. The

branches will then be largely

responsible for suggesting

what action is necessary to put

things right, Midland says. So

far, the main area of complaint has been queuing. As a result, extra staff have been taken on to cover busy periods, such as lunchtime. On the positive side, Midland customers are happy with the speed with which telephone calls are answered, the friendliness of staff and the availability of managers.

TSB says its customers want better direct communication. This year, some customers will have had four letters already from the bank on its code of practice, new savings products and youth range and to inform customers of charges before they are removed from their account.

Customers also want a higher quality of service in branches and faster processing of applications. As a result of this information, the bank has reduced the application time for credit cards from 15 days to six and is currently offering a 24-hour turnaround on applications for car loans.

Privacy is also important to customers. TSB has, therefore, added 1,000 interview rooms in branches for private discussions.

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Converted by letters: David Sachon

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# Postal account popularity grows as societies compete for savers

Cheap to operate  
service offers  
high rates  
and low risk.  
Lindsay Cook says

POSTAL accounts are proliferating. The Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, the first provider of instant access postal accounts in 1989, is launching a postal account with a seven-day interest penalty whenever withdrawals are made. Next month, it is adding telephone withdrawals to its instant access London share account.

The C&G went national with London share in May 1989 and had the market to itself for about 18 months. For savers seeking the best rates with minimum risk, these accounts are usually able to offer a higher return than branch-based ones because they are cheaper to operate.

Since the beginning of this week, London share has been paying 9.6 per cent gross (7.2 per cent net) on £2,500 or more.

The London deposit account will pay the same on the minimum investment of £5,000, but on £10,000 and above pays 9.9 per cent gross (7.42 per cent net). For sums of more than £25,000 the rate is 10.2 per cent gross (7.65 per



On line: staff at the Bradford and Bingley Building Society postal accounts office in Leamington Spa

identification number. A travel money telephone service for travellers' cheques and foreign currency from American Express has been added recently.

All London share customers are being informed of the new account. Those wanting more information can telephone free on 0800 2727383.

The Britannia Building Society is adding three more accounts to its postal service from Monday, two of which have guaranteed interest rates until the beginning of next year and the other with a fixed rate until the end of next July.

The capital trust account is relaunched, paying 10.4 per cent gross (7.8 per cent net) on a minimum investment of £2,000. Monthly income is available through the monthly account, paying 9.9 per cent gross (7.45 per cent net). Both will hold their rates until next year. The capital trust bond pays 10.3 per cent gross (7.73 per cent net), fixed until July 31, 1993. The minimum investment is £5,000.

At the close of business on Monday, the C&G withdraws

£50,000 and 10.6 per cent (7.95 per cent net) on £100,000. Savers can opt for a monthly income with a product called the first class instant access account, launched in March.

Bradford & Bingley pays only 2.2 per cent gross on sums up to £1,000. Above that, the rate is 9.2 per cent gross (6.9 per cent net). On £10,000 it rises to 9.9 per cent (7.4 per cent net) and at £25,000 the return is 10.05 per cent (7.5 per cent net).

Bristol & West's instant access Balmoral account pays 10.45 per cent (7.8 per cent net) above £2,500 and 10.9 per cent (8.17 per cent net) on £25,000.

The society also has a fixed-rate bond, launched on August 5, which fixes its savings rate until July 31, 1993. This starts at 10 per cent (7.5 per cent) on £5,000 and goes up to 10.5 per cent (7.9 per cent net) on £50,000.

Birmingham Midshires pays 9.5 per cent gross (7.12 per cent net) on £500, 10.25 per cent gross (7.69 per cent net) on £10,000, 10.45 per cent (7.84 per cent net) on

10.25 per cent gross (7.68 per cent net) on £1,000, 10.5 per cent (7.87 per cent net) above £10,000 and 10.8 per cent (8.1 per cent net) above £30,000.

The Building Society Shop in Nottingham offers a bond investing in a range of building societies through Providence Capitol. This has an investment minimum of £10,000 and is paying 8.3 per cent net or 8 per cent as monthly income. There are no initial charges and no penalty for withdrawal.

The competitiveness of the postal accounts is pointed up by the return on the Fidelity money market unit trust. In the past, it has tended to pay considerably more than building society accounts by investing large sums in the market.

The authorised unit trust was paying 9.6 per cent on Thursday (7.2 per cent net). This rate is paid on all investments over £500. Those with £5,000 or more in the fund are offered a cheque book and can pay bills of £250 or more direct from the fund.

### Pension negotiations leave a feeling of deception

From Mr C.P. McConnaughey

Sir, About a year ago I sought a review of my pension from an old employer. The total current pension, arranged by the employer involving three different insurance companies amounts to about 80 per cent of the State old age pension.

Being a selected old employee I was advised my pension would be increased by 10 per cent. However the increase would apply to only one of the

three insurance company pensions. A minor one of £354 per annum net, thereby an increase of £35.

I am 86 years old, commenced employment in Scotland as an office boy in 1920. May 1932 was transferred to an associated company in tropical West Africa. Retired in 1966 prior to the days of golden handshakes. The 46 years service included 20 years resident in the old White Man's Grave.

In view of my age and the

### Capital transfer

From Mr Neil Grant

Sir, The reason why I recently transferred my modest capital from a building society to National Savings is that I have been caught too often by the building societies' practice of surreptitiously downgrading the terms of the account.

I suspect that I am not alone.

Yours faithfully,  
NEIL GRANT,  
2 Avenue Road,  
Teddington,  
Middlesex.

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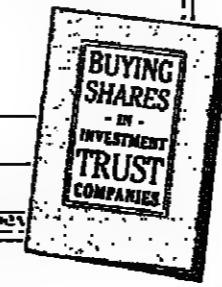
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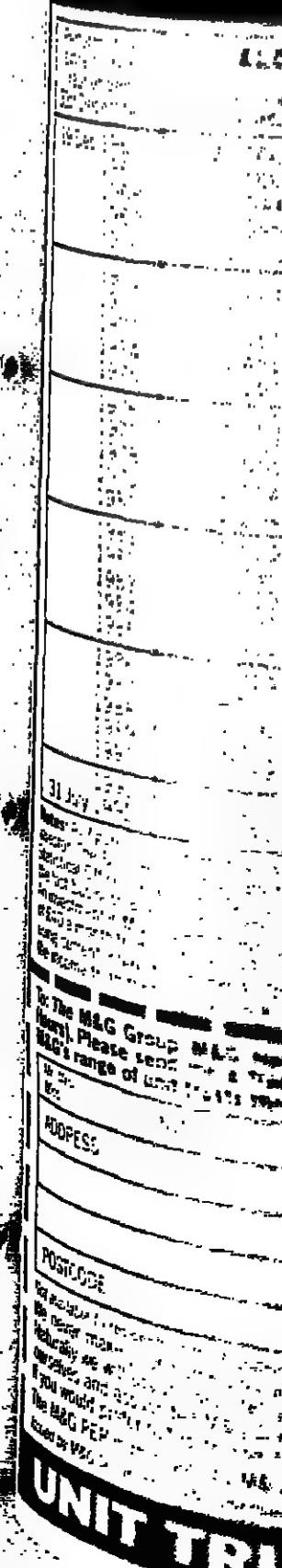
### STUDENT LOANS COMPANY LIMITED NOTICE OF VARIATION OF INTEREST RATE

Regulations made under the Education (Student Loans)

Act 1990 (as amended) ("the Act") and the Education (Student Loans) (Northern Ireland) Order 1990 ("the Order") have prescribed that the interest applicable to Loan Agreements under the Act or Order shall, in respect of the period from 1st September 1992, be the rate of interest per day which, taking into account the addition of interest to the principal amount of the loan, will result in an APR of 3.9%.

That rate of interest per day is 0.010498566% per day.

Accordingly Student Loans Company Limited HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that with effect from 1st September 1992 the RATE OF INTEREST under all such Loan Agreements is varied (in respect of the period from 1st September 1992) by being REDUCED from the present interest rate of 0.015483011% per day TO THE NEW INTEREST RATE of 0.010498566% per day (variable; APR 3.9%).



# Royal to refund 'wrong policy' payments

By SARA MCCONNELL

A COUPLE who were sold a life assurance policy and locked into paying premiums until 2036 when they asked for a seven-year savings plan, this week won a 14-month ban with Royal Life for compensation.

The case of Paul and Carol Wells of Halesowen, West Midlands, demonstrates what can go wrong when investors know what they want and the salesman does not have it available. The Wells's contacted a Royal Life agent in April 1988 because they wanted to save regularly over seven years to give their son, Stefan, then 16, a lump sum. They hoped he would be able to use it towards the deposit for a home. Mrs Wells hoped that if she invested £500 a year for seven years, the lump sum would be more than the £3,500 invested. She did not want life cover for her son, in whose name the money was to be invested.

However, she was sold a unit-linked whole-life policy, the Royal Life regular savings plan. Premiums of £40 a

month, or £480 a year, were scheduled to continue until 2036, when Stefan would be 64. This plan included £17,280 of unwanted and unrequested life cover. Royal explained in January that this is provided "to make the policy qualifying for tax purposes". It added that the surrender value of the policy at January 9, 1992 was £1,279.96. By then, Mrs Wells had paid £2,067 of premiums. The premiums

the rest is invested. At the same time, some of the units bought are cancelled to buy life cover, further diminishing the possibility of growth.

When the paperwork for the policy finally arrived, months later, Mrs Wells was mystified to find that she had been sold a cluster of eight policies. She received no explanation although Royal's agent promised to provide one. Royal said this week that the reason for

**There was no option of cancelling because the cooling off notice did not arrive until nearly three years after the policy was taken out**

had increased 10 per cent a year. Far from building up her investment, she had lost money.

Like most life policies, the Royal Life plan is intended to be a long-term investment and the costs of surrendering values are severe because of high upfront charges. All of Mrs Wells's £480 in the first year went on setting up costs. In the second year, 30 per cent of the premium goes on charges and

this "cluster" arrangement was that policyholders could cancel one policy out of the eight if they wanted a lump sum and avoid being so badly affected by poor surrender values. But even then, people might not get back what they had put in.

The Wells's did not have the option of cancelling the policy because the cooling off notice did not arrive until March 1991, nearly three years after

the policy was taken out. Since June last year, Mr and Mrs Wells have been in correspondence with the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation, and, more recently, the Insurance Ombudsman, as well as Royal.

Lauro told them it could not pursue the complaint because the policy was taken out three weeks before the Financial Services Act came into force and Lauro did not cover pre-FSA business, although it contacted Royal on the Wells's behalf. The ombudsman said he could not deal with the case until all channels had been exhausted at Royal.

Royal agreed this week that the Wells's had been sold the wrong policy. It has promised to refund their premiums with interest. It said the 14-month delay was because it "wanted to investigate thoroughly". It could not explain why its agent had sold a 16-year-old life cover, nor why he had not carried out a facsimile, which, although not a legal requirement then, would have been good practice.



Locked in: Paul and Carol Wells faced premiums until 2036

## SPECIALISTS

LLOYDS Bank and Leeds Permanent Building Society have both cut their rates for savers. The Leeds' rates have been cut by an average of 0.25 per cent, with smaller balances taking the brunt of reductions. Liquid Gold balances of up to £499.99 will now earn 3 per cent net, a cut of 0.38 per cent. Gross rates for the same balance have been cut 0.5 per cent to 4 per cent. The rate on balances between £25 and £2,999.99 in the Tessa Gold account has fallen 0.56 per cent net, or 0.75 per cent gross. Lloyds has cut its rate 0.2 per cent on average, with smaller balances on some accounts being hardest hit. Balances between £5,000 and £10,000 in an investment account will earn 7.10 per cent gross, or 5.3 per cent net, down from 7.40 per cent gross 5.5 per cent net.

□ First-time buyers borrowing less than 90 per cent of a property's value from the Chelsea Building Society will receive a further discount of 1.75 per cent off the first-time buyers' rate of 10.65 per cent for the first 12 months of their mortgage. Those borrowing up to 95 per cent of the property's value will receive a discount of 1.25 per cent. They will also get free mortgage payment protection cover

for a year. Cover is compulsory for two further years.

□ A plan that aims to protect capital investment, but takes advantage of rises in the FTSE 100 index, has been launched by Hypo Foreign & Colonial. The protected capital plus plan is an open-ended, roll-up fund based in Jersey and will look in growth from the index every quarter. Investors can cash in their investment at the end of any quarter without penalty. No loss is incurred if the market falls in any quarter. The minimum investment is £5,000.

□ Anglia Retirement Homes will pay stamp duty for anyone buying a home from it by September 21, extending the stamp duty holiday it has now officially reimposed and is set at 1 per cent of the price of any home costing more than £400 at the same rate.

The Halifax will be attending freshers' week events in September and October at some universities.

□ Last week's article "Counting cost of grants and loans" gave an over-optimistic impression of student grants. The grant levels stated were, in fact, the combined total of grant plus maximum student loan for each category. For example, £830 has to be deducted from the maximum grant for London students to give the correct sum of £2,845.

## Student package extended

By LINDSAY CROZ  
MONEY EDITOR

THE Halifax Building Society is to extend its maxim students' and young workers' package to new customers from Wednesday. It will be offered to students aged 18 or over in full-time further education and to all young workers aged 18 to 21.

The package offers £15 worth of store vouchers and gives interest-free overdrafts up to £300 for students and £100 for young workers. Students can borrow a further £200 at an annual percentage rate of 12.6 per cent and young workers can borrow another £400 at the same rate.

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## Illness plans left to lapse

INCREASING numbers of policyholders have stopped paying premiums on critical illness plans because of redundancy or other financial problems (Sara McConnell writes). But those who stop paying when their policies have been in force for less than five years are unlikely to get much of their money back.

Such policies pay out a lump sum on diagnosis of critical illnesses, such as cancer, strokes and coronaries. They are, however, life assurance contracts. About half the policies on the market are unit-linked, whole life insurance policies. Contributions buy units, which are invested in the stock market and should yield some growth as well as pay for protection against critical illnesses. But high upfront charges erode contributions in the early years, when most of the investment goes into a salesman's commission and other charges.

Laurentian calculated that a non-smoking man, 30 next birthday, putting £30 a month into a standard policy, with £34,375 of cover would get back only £413 if he cashed in after five years, although he would have paid in £1,800.

Abbey Life, the biggest player in the market, has also seen an increase in numbers of lapsed policies. Abbey calcu-

lated the same man paying £20.40 a month with £45,123 worth of cover would get back £541 if he surrendered after five years, having paid £1,764 in premiums. The surrender value assumes a growth rate of 8.75 per cent a year.

The company this week became the latest to announce new attractions to its policies, admitting that this was partly to encourage people to keep paying their premiums. It has added multiple sclerosis, blindness, loss of limbs and terminal illness (diagnosed as having less than a year to live) at no extra cost to the list of illnesses covered for both new and existing clients. It will also cut premiums for new customers by an average of 10 per cent from September 1.

Existing clients will not receive direct cuts in premiums but less will be deducted from premiums to cover mortality so any cash value will be greater. Lester Young, Abbey Life's product marketing manager, said the main reason for

the cuts was because claims experience had been better than expected.

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## THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Mid	Other	Wkd	Ytd	%	Mid	Other	Wkd	Ytd	%	Mid	Other	Wkd	Ytd	%	Mid	Other	Wkd	Ytd	%	Mid	Other	Wkd	Ytd	%
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS					Lorraine Fund	926.10	914.40	-1.40	-0.23	EQUITY & LEVY					Globe Fund	111.40	111.40	-0.20	-0.00	PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
R9 Holders Ltd. Registered Office: 1035 RAL					High Yield	102.10	100.00	-2.10	-0.23	CIVI LTD 9285 98321 Corp	201.00	200.00	-0.50	-0.25	Global Fund	111.10	111.10	-0.20	-0.00	Income Growth	81.12	81.07	-0.12	-0.07
Manager	85.14	85.21	-0.07	-0.08	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	101.00	-0.20	-0.00	Income Month	44.24	43.31	-1.11	-0.77					
International	53.65	54.00	-0.35	-0.40	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Japan Growth	44.95	47.34	+2.55	+2.55					
Dividend Ord	43.62	46.40	-0.27	-0.67	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Japan Income	54.57	54.53	-0.12	-0.12					
Dividends	54.72	56.40	-0.27	-0.67	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Div	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Eligible Inc	53.57	53.57	-0.22	-0.22	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	69.21	74.47	+0.28	1.03					
High Inc Equity	115.90	122.20	+0.60	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Opns	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Worldwide Bond	213.90	220.20	+0.30	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Other	120.00	127.40	+0.70	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
ABRITST MANAGEMENT LTD					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
100% Regd. London ETS 101.00					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
0224 633976. Declaring: 08/02/1992					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
30 Pct. Green. London ETS 101.00					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
AMERICA INC	29.07	31.28	+1.20	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
AMERICA Inc	16.20	22.00	+2.10	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
High Yield	17.10	18.10	+1.00	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
America Inc	33.87	36.25	+1.38	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Wkly Amer Val	20.69	20.69	-0.00	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Japan	16.00	16.00	-0.00	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Secs of Am	20.60	21.70	+1.30	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
HONG KONG	248.60	217.00	-1.30	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Worldwide Bond	213.90	220.20	+0.30	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Other	213.90	220.20	+0.30	-0.23	DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Allied Dunbar Ltd. Registered Office: 101.00					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
0793 514514. Declaring: 07/03/1992					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
ALLIED INDIA UNIT TRUSTS					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Allied India Ltd. Registered Office: 101.00					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
0793 514514. Declaring: 07/03/1992					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
ALLIED LIFE INSURANCE LTD					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Allied Life Ins Co Ltd. Registered Office: 101.00					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
0793 514514. Declaring: 07/03/1992					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
ALLIED LIFE INSURANCE LTD					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
Allied Life Ins Co Ltd. Registered Office: 101.00					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
0793 514514. Declaring: 07/03/1992					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.14	-0.14					
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Allied Life Ins Co Ltd. Registered Office: 101.00					DRAGONEF	101.00	102.40	+1.40	-0.23	INTERNATIONAL	118.00	121.00	+0.30	1.08	Special Fund	54.72	58.63	+0.1						

**Portfolio****PLATINUM**

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page. Add these prices to your running total for each card. Check this against the weekly dividend figure. If it matches this figure, you have won £100 or a share of the total weekly prize money available. To know the claim procedure and rules, see the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gala or Jens
1	Sth Wales	Electricity	
2	Vodaphone	Electrical	
3	Shell	Oil, Gas	
4	Eurothorn	Electrical	
5	Kingsfisher	Drapery/Stm	
6	Kelley Ind.	Industrial	
7	Park Foods	Foods	
8	CRA	Mining	
9	North West	Water	
10	Ocean Group	Transport	
11	Dixons Gp	Drapery/Stm	
12	Brake Bros	Foods	
13	Br Aerospace	Motors/Air	
14	T & S Stores	Drapery/Stm	
15	BOC	Industrial	
16	Genman	Industrial	
17	Interavia Gp	Industrial	
18	St Helens	Mining	
19	Euromaritime Uts	Transport	
20	Sunshine Uts	Industrial	
21	Iceland Fruits	Foods	
22	Lee Refrig	Electrical	
23	Cam Energy	Oil, Gas	
24	Lor (Wm)	Foods	
25	Taylor Woodrow	Building/Bds	
26	Smithkline	Industrial	
27	Mersey Docks	Transport	
28	Anglian Water	Water	
29	Corigliano Ni	Industrial	
30	STR	Industrial	
31	Compass Gp	Leisure	
32	Plym	Chem,Fine	
33	Santich	Paper,Print	
34	Mind	Electrical	
35	Tipperary	Transport	
36	LWT CP	Leisure	
37	Boco	Industrial	
38	Exp Co Louis	Oil, Gas	
39	Cadbury-Sch	Foods	
40	Hilldown	Foods	
41	Lufthansa	Hotels,Cas	
42	Santuary J	Foods	
43	Thomson Corp	Newspaper,Pub	
44	Central TV	Leisure	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

**Weekly Dividend**  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £5,000 in today's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT Weekly Total

Three readers shared the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mr M Doyle, of Haywards Heath; Mr G Dilley, of Worthing, and Mr P Osborn, of Leeds, each receive £566.66.

**1992 High Low Company Price % Net Yld % P/E**

**BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP**

No	Company	Group	Gala or Jens
317	Abbey Nat		
318	Alfred Holt		
319	Barclays		
320	Barnes		
321	Burnham Brd		
322	Camborne Min		
323	Carradale Min		
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## RUGBY UNION

# South Africa put their progress to biggest test

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT  
IN CAPE TOWN

A BANNER was paraded by two youths before the World Cup final at Twickenham last November. Springboks World Champions, it read. Today at Newlands here, South Africa absents from that last global tournament but hosts in three years' time have their chance to play Australia, the holders of the Webb Ellis Trophy, and confirm the impression created a week ago that isolation has not been as harmful to their rugby as they feared.

Certainly, that is the lesson South Africa drew from their 27-24 defeat against New Zealand in Johannesburg, their international re-entry. "That match gave us a base to work from," John Williams, their coach said. "Players were able to assess their mistakes and work on them."

"But the Wallabies are stronger than the All Blacks with their strict pattern of play. Australia can play total rugby, they can play up front, they can swing the ball wide."

The impression the South Africans have of their own standing after only one match, therefore, may be clarified on what is likely to be a damp Newlands surface.

New Zealand were at the end of a long, demanding tour and had opened a 17-point margin before the match became desperately loose in the final quarter. Australia, fresher and with a proud record behind them, will offer a different challenge, one which they remain strong favourites to meet successfully.

They are aware of not having performed to their own expectations this season, which is scarcely surprising after their fears of 1991; yet their encore to the World Cup, success in the Bledisloe Cup series, has been notable, and the match today is one for which they require no motivation.

The Australians have worked on their scrummage while the South Africans have concentrated on the lineout, so as to comply with international law interpretations and to become more aggressive on the opposition throw. Dwyer acknowledges his side has had an advantage in watching South Africa play so that he has a greater idea of what to expect than had New Zealand.

What Australia cannot legislate for is the Botha factor.

There is nobody like Naas Botha in the world game, who can so single-handedly change results by his line and his place kicking and Newlands has been, notoriously, a happy hunting ground for him, in the wet or the dry.

It has been 21 years since the two countries last met (Australia trail 21-7 in a series which began in 1973), since when massive changes have taken place in Australian rugby. Indeed, the void left by South Africa's absence from world rugby has been filled in the last decade by the Wallabies' capacity for scoring points when they need to have become a trademark which should serve them well today.

Cluguya, the Western Province team at whose ground in the black township of Nganya, the South Africans trained yesterday, are to tour Britain in November. They will play three games in Wales and one in London on November 14, when England play South Africa at Twickenham.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** J T van Rensburg (transl), J Simal (transl), D M Gardner (transl), P Pienaar (transl), P J du Plessis (transl), P H Botha (transl), H E Botha (Northern Transl), R J du Plessis (Nat), K J Steyn (Orange Free State), L L Schutte (Northern Transl), L J J van der Westhuizen (Northern Transl), A Goldring (Eastern Province), A W Malan (Northern Transl), J Macdonald (Transl), J A Brink (Transl), J A Rapson (Transl), H P Ross (Transl), H J le Roux (Transl), G D Wright (Transl), H Roberts (Transl), W Hill (Northern Transl), H Helling (Northern Transl), W J Botha (Northern Transl).

**AUSTRALIA:** M C Robuck (NSW); D J Campese (NSW); J S Little (Queensland); T J Horan (Queensland); V Corcoran (Queensland); P J Flanagan (Queensland); N C Far-Jones (Queensland); A J Daley (NSW); P N Keays (NSW); V Chisholm (Queensland); R J McCullagh (Queensland); J A Scott (Queensland); D Wilson (Queensland); B T Gavins (NSW); Replacements: AG Herbert (Queensland); P Keni (Queensland); S Stanley (Queensland); T A Lark (Queensland); A Siddle (NSW); G Morgan (Queensland); Replacements: D J Bishop (New Zealand).

## WATER SKIING

## Campbell grasps his chance

BY JANE ELLIOTT

THE British Water Ski Federation (BWSF) is faced with a problem that would be the envy of any other sport. The depth and quality of talent in the junior ranks is so extensive that even the team reserves are capable of winning gold medals in leading competitions, as Glen Campbell proved at the European junior and dauphin event.

Campbell, 15, from Spalding, is protégé of the world slalom record-holder, Andy Marple. He is also a casualty of the BWSF's success in finding and developing talent. Despite his outstanding achievements in both the junior and senior classes, he was not included in the team of four at the world junior

championships in Colombia last month. Even matching his lowest score of the season would have given him the slalom gold medal.

With water time costing up to £8 a session and skiers needing at least four sessions each day, Campbell is one of an ever-growing number of skiers in need of sponsorship. Securing it depends on a big title win, and with this in mind, his parents paid for him to go to the European championships in Czechoslovakia. They were rewarded with the slalom gold medal.

In addition to Campbell's success, the team secured an unprecedented total of five golds, five silvers and a bronze medal.

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It is no surprise, then, that Britain is the clear favourite to win the European youth cup in Moissac, France, this weekend.

Born in Tenerife, Campbell, 15, from Tenerife, will meet Mauro Galvano, of Italy, in a WBC super-middleweight title bout in Rome later this year. It will be the first time that the former WBO middleweight champion has fought outside Britain and the United States.

Benn, 26, who is training in Tenerife, will receive more than £100,000 for the bout on October 3. He lifted the WBO featherweight champion, being lined up for a match

ago by beating Doug DeWitt in Atlantic City and defended it against Iran Barkley. The title was taken from him by Chris Eubank.

Galvano, the WBC champion, warmed up for his meeting with Benn by beating Eduardo Peralta, of Argentina, on points nine days ago.

Paul Hodgkinson, the WBC featherweight champion, is being lined up for a match

## BOXING

## Benn will challenge Galvano in Rome

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Paul Hodgkinson, the WBC featherweight champion, is being lined up for a match

Two talented fillies could present Roberts with Newmarket dilemma next month

## Speedy Sayyedati tunes up with Irish tilt

JULIAN HERBERT



Green party: Walk In The Park strolls home in her green colours to capture the claiming event at Sandown yesterday

MICHAEL Roberts could well be faced with a difficult decision if both Lyric Fantasy and Sayyedati are in the line-up for the Cheveley Park Stakes on September 30.

Sayyedati, currently 10-1 favourite for next spring's 1,000 Guineas, is the filly that Roberts rode to victory in the Cherry Hinton Stakes at the July meeting. Clive Britain plans to give the filly her Newmarket preliminary in the group one Moyglare Stud Stakes at the Curragh on September 16.

And at Sandown yesterday, Lord Carnarvon, Lyric Fantasy's owner, said that the brilliant Keeneland Nunthorpe Stakes is more likely to be aimed at Britain's top race for two-year-old fillies than at the all-aged Prix de l'Abbaye.

"At present, I'd say we're more likely to go to Newmarket," said the Queen's racing manager after watching his filly Meltemps finish second to Amwaj in the Starlight Express Roller Stakes.

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Woo...  
to ir...  
chinks

Nichaud  
makes  
my run

# Hooked on a sport where time just passes you by

**Brian Clarke enjoys a day in the life of an angler, and finds that it offers a stream of escape from the activities of the world**

It is no coincidence that angling is the most popular participant sport. It has so many attractions, can appeal on so many levels at so many ages to so many temperaments, that it could hardly be otherwise.

One of the sport's special qualities is that it can cocoon: it has the ability to absorb and transport utterly, regardless of place and time and circumstance. I saw the spell cast three times on the same day just recently.

In the morning I fished one of the loveliest stretches of trout stream in England. For 100 years and more, it has been crafted for fly-fishing. The water has been controlled and channelled, the banks have been shaped and manicured. Indolent trout lie out everywhere, in full and provocative view.

They are expensive fish. My host pays what amounts to thousands of pounds a year to fish there. Yet, to the amusement of my friend and the astonishment of the keeper, I spent part of my time fishing for coarse fish. They come, give or take, at around ten to a penny.

From the moment I reached the huge backwater at the bottom of the fishery, I was mentally lost. The banks there had been left to grow wild as a screen against a right of way. The river there had been left to grow wild, also.

The water, when I managed to make my way to it, was brilliantly clear. High fronds of weed, lush and green, orchestrated a faint current. In a break in the weed, a shoal of fish was suspended, mid-water. One of them turned and winked soft silver light. Its fins were an orange-red. It was a pristine fish, a roach; and on that instant I was ten-years-old again. Hiawatha stalking.

For a long time, I forgot my rod; for far longer still, I forgot the trout. The more I looked,

the more I melted into the time lagoon at my feet.

A gang of large perch, broad-shouldered and flashy, shrugged and muscled their way down the pool like wide boys out on the razzle. A shoal of bream, a herd almost, appeared from the base of the lily-pads and grazed and crooked the bottom, rummaged in the silt, stirred up curtains clouds of brown. A chub, a monstrous fish, bronze and barrel-fat, slid purposefully by.

And time passed. The sun burned, the trout dimpled before me, all unremarked. It was the roach that absorbed. Of course, I had to give them a try.

There was no room to cast. The bushes behind beckoned my rod, the reeds in front would magnetise any stray hook. I had to dibble.

I parted the reeds as carefully as I could and intimated the rod-tip through them, inch by inch. Fins quickened; a couple of fish turned full circle in little more than their body lengths and then settled again. I lowered the rod and let the weighted nymph on the end of the leader sink down.

Nine trout out of ten would have had that fly leave it on its first twinkling free fall; one trout in any group would have lunged forward and grabbed it lest a neighbour got there first.

That evening, my drive home took me through a town with a canal running through its centre. I caught a glimpse of someone fishing, glanced at my watch and pulled over to observe.

A youth of 19 or 20 was sitting by the side of the canal, float-fishing. There was a footpath immediately behind him and a municipal park behind that. Small boys ran and wrestled, old men stretched uncertain legs, women bustled, couples canoodled. And, oblivious to it all, the young man sat on his tackle-box casting out, reeling in, occasionally slipping a tiny silver

hook into mock applause. They had been there, they said, for at least 15 minutes and I had been missing for nearly an hour.

That evening, my drive home took me through a town with a canal running through its centre. I caught a glimpse of someone fishing, glanced at my watch and pulled over to observe.

The man had a fishing rod beside him, and a box packed full of spools and tins. A loaf of bread, clearly his bait, was close at hand. He had no float. His line ran straight down into the water and he was gazing intently towards the end of his rod, waiting for it to signal an offer.

Even in that soulless place beneath that dome of noise, the man in the collapsible chair was every bit as complete, every bit as hermetically sealed, as the lad sharing his float by the park.

And I understood them both, completely.

bleak into a keep-net that would have held Moby Dick.

All the world seemed intent on distracting him. It came in ones and twos and two and three groups, sometimes with inquisitive dogs. There were the mildly curious, the amused and bemused, the titterers, and the stoppers and talkers. One man turned angling first into a spectator sport, then into a proxy experience. He settled cross-legged beside the centrefeeding youth, neither speaking nor being spoken to, sharing the young angler's float, adrift on a suspended existence. He was still there when I left.

The walk back to my car took me to the wide bridge over which most of the evening traffic roared. Juggernauts ground and groaned, cars idled and inched, radio music fused to cacophony through a hundred wound-down windows. Fumes shimmered in the hot, still air. The bridge itself was sprayed with graffiti — Jim and Tracy, Mods Are Back, Maggie Out and the rest.

There was a tiny patch of grass on the far side of the bridge, before the path curved away into what looked like it could have been an industrial estate. It was just big enough for the man sitting in the collapsible chair.

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Time for reflections: a young man alone with his thoughts on the canal bank, while a spectator shares the experience

## HOCKEY

### Nicklin included in squad

JOHN Monie has returned for a fourth and final coaching term at Wigan to find half his invincible side of last season have either packed their bags, are preparing to leave, or are on the sick list after Great Britain's rigorous summer excursion.

The Central Park edifice is hardly crumbling. Unlike their finances, the club's resources of aspiring talent remain bountiful, although the

obvious cracks in Wigan's all-conquering line-up can rarely have given their frustrated rivals so many crumbs of comfort on the eve of a new season.

Monie was frank about his changed lot yesterday. "Look at us now and we are more vulnerable, sure," he said.

"Lose two champion players like Andy Gregory to Leeds and Gene Miles, and possibly a third because of Andy Blair's contractual dispute, and you've got to worry."

"Yes, it could well be tighter this time round. We've got to work on development to fill these big holes, although, do remember, we've still got a heck of a lot of the game's class acts."

Wigan will field nine of their Great Britain players against St Helens in the CIS Insurance Charity Shield at Gateshead tomorrow but cannot call on Shaun Edwards, Neil Cowie or Martin Dermott, who are recovering from injuries sustained while on tour. Joe Lydon and David Myers are also carrying niggling strains but are named in the team with Sam Panapa as stand-by for Lydon in the

centre. The next nine months offer no respite to an already jaded Wigan, whose single, salutary reward for furnishing the Great Britain squad with a record 13 players has been extra overtime for those working in the club's treatment room.

With the demands of the domestic season now so oppressive, Wigan's principal players will be doing well to remain standing on their feet at the end of 18 months' continuous matchplay, besides attempting to win a fourth consecutive league championship and a sixth successive Challenge Cup.

With the cibn having tightened the purse-strings for the coming season, a greater onus will be placed on Wigan's feeder-bed system. Mick

## RUGBY LEAGUE

### Wigan pay the price of success

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

#### ST HELENS

ST HELENS: P. Verner, A. Hunter, G. Corlett, T. Price, A. Sutcliffe, J. Gillies, G. O'Donnell, J. Neill, B. Dwyer, K. Ward, J. Harrison, G. Mann, S. Cooper (captain).

WIGAN: S. Hampson, D. Myers, D. Bell, E. Bamford, C. Cowie, I. Lunn, M. Cassidy, K. Sharrett, D. Borth, W. McGlynn, P. Clarke.

Lydon plays on

## SHOOTING

### British fortunes show signs of improving

BY OUR SHOOTING CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S shooting in the IUT (International Shooting Union) disciplines has been going through a rough patch recently, including the Olympic Games, but the performances this week in the Nordic shooting championships, particularly by the juniors in all disciplines, gives hope for the future.

The five Nordic nations are not easy opponents. They may not be as formidable as the Russians and Germans, for instance, but Sweden and Finland in particular have been giving our home shooters a serious test.

The shotguns certainly passed it with flying colours, and in the women's Olympic trap event they not only took gold, silver and bronze but the team gold as well.

James Birkett-Evans won the gold in the men's event, with the Olympic shooter, Kevin Gill, on silver, one point behind, and the pair and Jamie Garland also secured the team award.

Sarah Colyer, of East Grinstead, won the 50 metres

prone rifle women's gold medal and Andrew Campbell, who combines both small-bore shooting and the big-bore 300 metres, took the silver medal for 300 metres 60 shots prone.

In a close contest he scored a useful 593 out of 600, one point behind Mikael Larsson, of Sweden. John Davis had 590 and Neil Braisher 585.

The trio totalled 1,768 but missed the team gold on the count-back.

Rachel Ambrose, who won a gold medal earlier in the week, took the junior women's 50 metres bronze.

In the junior Olympic trap, John Chesney, 17, won the silver and the British team in which he was joined by Peter Davies and Robert Garwood, won the team gold.

Richard Bicknell won the silver in the men's skeet and in company with Richard McGlashen, and Drew Harvey, who at 13 is the youngest in the tournament, finished third in the team event with 415.

Results, page 27

## YACHTING

### Ocean Leopard must go it alone for record

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

MIKE Slade's 80ft maxi, Ocean Leopard, set out from Hartlepool last night bound for Cowes in a final attempt to break Robin Knox-Johnston's round Britain sailing record.

They have until 10.30pm tomorrow to complete the 360-mile distance, a target that may not be helped by the weather. "It will be a close run thing. If the winds remain southerly then we stand a good chance, but if they head round to the west, it will be difficult to maintain the necessary average of 7.13 knots," Slade said yesterday.

The loss of the Combined Services yacht, Dump Truck, from the race means that Ocean Leopard sells this last leg alone. "It is a great pity Colin Watkins and his crew have had to withdraw, because we were having a great battle with them," Slade said. "Now we need to have the record in our sights just to keep the crew motivated."

Watkins and his team returned to Amble yesterday to check the full extent of the damage sustained to Dump

Truck after she had been towed from the rocks off the Northumbrian coast on Thursday night. The hull had suffered extensive damage to her starboard side, her rudder was broken and keel bent. She is now expected to be shipped back by lorry to Green Marine, her builder, for repair.

As Ocean Leopard set out, a very relieved Mike Richards and his crew on the smaller Bounder, were celebrating their increased lead over the Youth Challenge crew during their compulsory 24-hour stopover in Hartlepool.

The Mathew Humphries skippered Youth Challenge had closed to within 21 minutes of the larger Bounder on corrected time, until 25-knot head winds blew up on Thursday overnight to push them back. Now the gap is 3½ hours and Humphries is praying for the right conditions.

RESULTS: Third leg: Hounds: 1, Ben Voller (G. London), 702; 48min; 2, Ben (G. London), 72:17; 3, The Youth Challenge (M. Humphries), 73:47; 5, Quicksilver (D. Part), 75:44; 6, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 77:18; Overall: 1, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:03; 2, Monsoon (V. R. Farrel), 27:20; 3, Bounder (D. Part), 27:22; 4, Modern (P. Hobart), 27:24; 5, Mr & Mrs J. Metcalfe (P. Hobart), 27:25; 6, Metronome (P. Hobart), 27:26; 7, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:27; 8, Star (J. Parker), 27:28; 9, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:29; 10, Ben (G. London), 27:30; 11, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:31; 12, Bounder (D. Part), 27:32; 13, Hounds (B. Voller), 27:33; 14, The Youth Challenge (M. Humphries), 27:34; 15, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:35; 16, Ben (G. London), 27:36; 17, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:37; 18, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:38; 19, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:39; 20, Ben (G. London), 27:40; 21, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:41; 22, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:42; 23, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:43; 24, Ben (G. London), 27:44; 25, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:45; 26, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:46; 27, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:47; 28, Ben (G. London), 27:48; 29, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:49; 30, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:50; 31, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:51; 32, Ben (G. London), 27:52; 33, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:53; 34, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:54; 35, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:55; 36, Ben (G. London), 27:56; 37, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:57; 38, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:58; 39, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:59; 40, Ben (G. London), 27:60; 41, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:61; 42, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:62; 43, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:63; 44, Ben (G. London), 27:64; 45, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:65; 46, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:66; 47, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:67; 48, Ben (G. London), 27:68; 49, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:69; 50, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:70; 51, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:71; 52, Ben (G. London), 27:72; 53, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:73; 54, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:74; 55, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:75; 56, Ben (G. London), 27:76; 57, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:77; 58, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:78; 59, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:79; 60, Ben (G. London), 27:80; 61, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:81; 62, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:82; 63, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:83; 64, Ben (G. London), 27:84; 65, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:85; 66, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:86; 67, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:87; 68, Ben (G. London), 27:88; 69, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:89; 70, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:90; 71, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:91; 72, Ben (G. London), 27:92; 73, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:93; 74, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:94; 75, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:95; 76, Ben (G. London), 27:96; 77, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:97; 78, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:98; 79, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:99; 80, Ben (G. London), 27:100; 81, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:101; 82, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:102; 83, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:103; 84, Ben (G. London), 27:104; 85, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:105; 86, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:106; 87, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:107; 88, Ben (G. London), 27:108; 89, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:109; 90, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:110; 91, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:111; 92, Ben (G. London), 27:112; 93, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:113; 94, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:114; 95, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:115; 96, Ben (G. London), 27:116; 97, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:117; 98, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:118; 99, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:119; 100, Ben (G. London), 27:120; 101, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:121; 102, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel), 27:122; 103, Quicksilver (D. Part), 27:123; 104, Ben (G. London), 27:124; 105, Monsoon (R. Farrel), 27:125; 106, Ocean Leopard (V. R. Farrel),

**Welshman takes lead in German Open**

# Woosnam on way to ironing out chinks in his game

FROM JOHN HENNESSY IN DUSSELDORF

IAN Woosnam moved to 12 under par in the German Open yesterday, and still he was not entirely satisfied. His 65, seven under par, gave him a lead of two strokes over Barry Lane, the overnight leader, Vijay Singh, of Fiji, and Gavin Levenson, a former South African Open champion.

Lane played as well as he had done on Thursday, but this time his putting, which knew no wrong in a first round of 64, could not quite tuck the ball away with the same facility and he had to settle for a 70. Singh had a 68 to go with his first-round 66 while Levenson has the same two scores, but in reverse order.

These scores, and others much like them, might suggest that at 6,775 yards, the Hubberath course is a bit of a pushover, but your long game has to be in good working order if you are to profit from greens which harbour a treas-ure-house of ridges.

They are receptive to well-struck seconds, even with long irons, and follow a true line to the hole. They are fast, low, by European standards, so that it does not do to be in the wrong place.

The fact that, so far, there has been little wind to help the common cause

and players were aware that to not get below par after 36 holes was to flirt with an early flight home. The cut, indeed, came at one under par.

Woosnam purveyed his customarily casual brand of long hitting from a short stance, with little apparent effort.

When he is on song he makes the game look so simple that spectators new to the sport might look for other summer pursuits.

Even now, he is not too trusting of his driver and used it yesterday only three times. Devastating though his round was, Woosnam said that he would need to work harder "to get more rhythm. I'm still not comfortable with the longer clubs. I'm hitting my one-iron far enough. The key to this course is to keep the ball in play".

The driver betrayed him at the long 12th, but a lucky ricochet steered him clear of the water and into an improbable birdie. He hit his third with a seven-iron to eight feet and holed the putt.

A German Open without Bernhard Langer would seem like an affront to the laws of nature, but it nearly came about yesterday. His unconvincing round came to an end with a nervous 18th hole, where he had to get up and down from sand to remain at

one under par and so escape the guillotine. At least he signed off in masterly fashion with a bunker shot to within a foot.

The conundrum of the com-

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## Referees ready for full-time role in changing game



Blatter: changes afoot

The campaign by Fifa, the world governing body of football, against cheating and time-wasting, belatedly introduced and never more needed than now after 20 years of procrastination, will not stop with the prohibition of back-passes.

Sepp Blatter, general secretary of Fifa, said that professional referees are soon to be officially introduced, to keep pace with professionalism, desirable and undesirable, on the field.

Also under discussion within Fifa's referees committee, Blatter disclosed, are time-keeping controlled off the field; measures to restrict injury-leaving; increased training of all aspects of refereeing; and, the most revolutionary of all, consideration of the two

referee system that is common to many team ball-games, and is considered by many to be essential to the adequate surveillance of the complex world of football.

The key area of the game in the immediate future is the referee, Blatter said. "Coaches consider only playing to win, not the ideals of the game. What we can control on the field is the referee, because they belong to us and to the national federations and not to the clubs."

Fifa, however, like so many sports governing bodies, is traditional and conservative. The benefits likely from the abolition of the back-pass to goalkeepers were apparent to many for a long time, but it was a long time coming. It has taken Blatter seven years.

The development must be funded to a five percent levy from within the game, Blatter said.

**David Miller reports from Zurich on moves by the men who control the on-pitch action to keep up with football's growing demands**

since before the World Cup in Mexico in 1986, to convince the referees committee that there should be a distinction between referees and linesmen; in other words, that some referees are better than others.

Lennart Johansson, president of Uefa, illustrated this at the end of the recent championship when saying that henceforth only the best referees would be considered, no matter how many from one country, and not from a cross-section panel. Blatter's attitude was initially resisted by

their normal job, or being inadequate as referees, especially in Europe between September and December, the busier period.

It is also unreasonable, Blatter said, for referees to give much of their holiday time to football instead of to their families. The solution for professional football, he reasons, is to have professional referees who are adequately indemnified from losses in another occupation. Paolo Casarin was studying a formula for the appointment of professionals throughout the last Italian league season and will present his proposals to the referees committee on September 18.

The best Fifa referees have, he said, "then with their travel involvement they must either be taking short-cuts at

suggested, hardly unattainable for a game squandering millions on the transfer market. Furthermore, he says, the training of referees in their understanding of the laws, physical fitness and, most important, their knowledge of how the game is being played, has to be raised. "The one thing referees never do at present," he said, "is to attend tactical courses on the playing side of the game in order to understand professional subtleties. How can a referee be director of the show if he does not understand the game?"

Blatter is also concerned at the increasing incidence of feigned injury and will try to introduce a system by which injured players, if requiring treatment, will have to be carried off on a stretcher. The

penalty for then quickly running back on the field — as disgracefully done by Valderrama, the captain of Colombia during the last World Cup — will be a booking.

"The ligament injury is deliberately used by coaches when their players are tired, a form of time-wasting during which they can reorganise," Blatter said. There were conspicuous examples of this during the Denmark-Germany European final. Blatter was emphatic. "This is cheating."

Because the referee cannot

credibly add seven or eight minutes to the duration of the game without crowd unrest,

Blatter is convinced the timing must be passed to an official off the pitch, at least for high-level competition.

## Robson is no stranger to Sporting pressures

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

BOBBY Robson's new club, Sporting Lisbon, has a motto that reads "loyalty, dedication, devotion and glory" but all four qualities have been in short-supply recently.

Sporting, whom Robson joined after two successful years with the Dutch champions, PSV Eindhoven, at the end of last season, have won the Portuguese championship 16 times but not once for ten years.

Players have been accused of slacking and coaches have been summarily dismissed by the club management and it is against a background of frustration and expectancy that Robson's team kicks off the new season today.

Robson is hardly unfamiliar with such pressures and the man who was manager of England for eight years until 1990 has already demanded greater discipline from his players. "We need to work hard, be more competitive and have a better attitude," he said.

Robson has brought in three foreign players: Andrzej Juskowiak, from Poland, Sergei Cherbakov, from Ukraine and the Dutch defender, Stan Valek. Robson worked with Valek at Eindhoven and is confident he will bring some English virtues to the team. "He's a very aggressive competitor ... he's what the team needs because he's got heart and he's got character."

Juskowiak, 22, was the leading scorer in the Olympic football tournament in Barcelona, helping Poland to the silver medal.

The mainspring of the Sporting attack will continue to be Krasimir Balakov, a Bulgarian forward whose skills and finishing Robson describes as "fantastic".

As to his own position, Robson is already feeling at home and looks tanned and fit. "I've settled in very well. I like the club," he said. "They are nice people and it's a wonderful climate here for training."

At the age of 59, Robson is untroubled by the demands for success from the club's many supporters. "I'm not feeling the pressure, because I'm not a young coach," he said. "I've been through it. I had the England job for eight years, if you can handle that, you can handle anything." He

has not yet mastered Portuguese but has had no problems training a team that contains players from seven nations. But his demands for higher work has upset some Sporting players used to the gentler methods of his predecessor, the Brazilian, Marinho Peres.

Under Peres, Sporting's young players impressed with their elegant dribbling and passing, but failed to win matches and tended to fade when the going got tough.

Since 1982, Sporting's neighbours Benfica and FC Porto, the reigning champions, have carved up the championship between them.

The Swiss club Grasshopper Zurich has dismissed coach Oldrich Svab and replaced him with former Real Madrid team ... manager Leo Beenhakker. In announcing the appointment, the club gave no financial details of the one-year deal.

Beenhakker, temporary coach of the Dutch 1990 World Cup team, has also worked at Ajax Amsterdam. The Dutchman left Real this year when they missed out on the league title. Grasshopper are still without a win after seven matches this season.

Cypriot police will take special anti-hooligan precautions next month when Juventus play the local club Anorthosis and Liverpool meet Apollon.

"Of course we will take extra measures," said police spokesman Prokopis Georgiou. "We don't expect hooligans to go on a rampage here but we will be ready to combat any possible violence both inside and outside the stadiums."

Liverpool will play Apollon Limassol in the coastal town on September 29 in the European Cup Winners' Cup. The following day, Juventus face Anorthosis of Larissa in the Uefa Cup.

Thirty-nine people, mostly Italians, died at the Heysel stadium in Brussels in 1985. Liverpool and Juventus supporters clashed before the 1985 European Cup final in Belgium.

Andreas Stylianou, of the Cyprus Football Federation, said all European matches on the island were "high-risk". Apollon officials expect about 4,000 Liverpool supporters to travel to Cyprus for the match.



Arsenal architect: "We've got to be successful first," says Graham

## Women defend Uefa championship record

ENGLAND will seek to retain their unbeaten record in the Uefa women's championship when they meet Scotland at McDiarmid Park in Perth tomorrow (a Special Correspondent writes).

England, who have already qualified from group three, have Kerry Davis available after a foot injury. If she plays, it will be the forward's fifth appearance.

Marianne Spacey, of Wimbleton, is ruled out with a knee injury, while Scotland have fitness doubts surrounding Elaine Faulkner, Shelley

Valle and Sharon McAllister. ENGLAND SQUAD: T Davison (Doncaster), B Fletcher (Sheffield United), G Gould (Celtic), J Hart (Sheffield Wednesday), K Walker (Doncaster), J Murray (Doncaster), B Belotti (Luton), A Stevenson (Bury), D Smith (Sheffield Wednesday), P Taylor (Brentford), I Pollard (Brentford), S Boston (Brentford), S Lee (Shrewsbury Town), S Hayes (Knowlesey United), J Davis (Sheffield Wednesday), A Alexander, L Waller (Macclesfield), L Jones (Macclesfield), L Waller (Macclesfield), S COLTLAND SQUAD: G Lyon (Ogden), P McCallum (Luton), M Brooker (Clyde), C Campbell (Clyde), C Doherty (Dundee United), K Vaughan (Cumbernauld), K Mitchell (Cumbernauld), J Lee (Cumbernauld), P Hart (Dundee United), P McCallum (Cumbernauld), S Vella (Cumbernauld), P McHugh (Clydebank), P Brown (Clydebank), E McCallum (Clydebank), I McMillan (Thistle), C McMillan (Clydebank), E Faulkner (Clydebank), C Knotman (Clydebank).

A depleted Celtic travel to Ibrox to take on Rangers, while Heart of Midlothian also have worries as they prepare for their meeting with Hibernian at Easter Road.

Celtic have undoubtedly had the most punitive start possible. The league schedule has already seen them meet Hearts and Aberdeen away and Dundee United at home. This afternoon's Old Firm game completes a series of fixtures against each of the other members of Scotland's so-called Big Five. Having reached the quarter-finals of the Skol Cup, Celtic must also retrace their steps to Edinburgh for another encounter with Hearts next Wednesday.

"We are only at the fourth Saturday of the league campaign and already I have lost

and Howells may be relieved to have got rid of injury. Curdy may have suffered a severe blow to his eye and it is to take his place in an unchanged Forest side.

CPR v Sheffield U

Having been thrown in at the deep end by the fixture scheduling in the first week, United are still off and threatening to swim clear of relegation waters for a change. McLeary could clinch a £400,000 move from Millwall to United with a good display. Rangers, another of the season's possible dark horses, recall Steinkil, naturally, after international duty in midweek.

Wimbledon v Coventry

There is nothing like a visit to Wimbledon for bringing people down to earth as Bobby Gould, the Coventry manager, knows only too well from his successful time there.

An unexpected early leader of the Premier League, his unchanged Coventry team is there to be shot at. Fashan could start his first game of the season for Wimbledon recovered from a hamstring injury but there is still no sign of Phelan.

Tottenham v Liverpool

Two teams who have like-minded ambitions — the capture of the league title — also have similar injury problems to set forwards which could detract from the live television game's interest. Rush has only a 50-50 chance of being fit for Liverpool, Wright Stevens for Arsenal, Grobb and slide injuries, respectively, are to blame.

Merson's fitness is also in doubt, having missed the Blackburn game.

□ Compiled by Clive White

## Celtic pay a heavy price

By RODDY FORSYTH

IF ANYONE doubts this season will be as much a test of sheer manpower for Scotland's leading teams, he need only look at the list of injured players and then an unflattering fixture card that today offers the first dirty collisions of the new campaign.

A depleted Celtic travel to Ibrox to take on Rangers, while Heart of Midlothian also have worries as they prepare for their meeting with Hibernian at Easter Road.

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In other circumstances, Mowbray, too, might be permitted an afternoon out of the firing line, but a mere ten stitches in a wicked head wound will not prevent him lining up alongside McNally in a makeshift defence. Brady will almost certainly field his recent acquisitions, Slater and Payton, in the starting

line-up. "We are only at the fourth Saturday of the league campaign and already I have lost

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□ Compiled by Clive White

Hearts occupy second place by virtue of superior goal difference.

Derek Ferguson and Crabbie may not be available for the Hearts manager, Joe Jordan, who said: "They are a real problem for us that we don't have much time to recover between games."

Hibernian, meanwhile, will have to recover from the trauma of being dismissed from the Skol Cup, the trophy they won last season by Kilmarock, and they will not do so in the company of Hunter, who has a hernia problem.

Elsewhere, there is an attractive looking fixture at Pittodrie between Aberdeen and Dundee, for whom the impetuous Gilzean is suspended, and at Tannadice United meet St Johnstone, whose manager Alex Tonkin, has just signed a one-year contract.

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□ Compiled by Clive White

## Gillhaus will not see out extended trial

HANS Gillhaus, the Dutch international, has rejected the chance to extend his trial period with Aston Villa and the opportunity to play in the Premier League match with Southampton at Villa Park today.

Ron Atkinson, the Villa manager, wanted the Aberdeen forward, who scored twice in a reserve-game for Villa, to sign a month's contract which would enable him to play for the senior side. But after further talks with Atkinson the £500,000-rated player has decided to return to Scotland.

Atkinson said yesterday: "It's disappointing but when you are trying as hard as we are to bring someone in you are bound to meet setbacks. He wanted me to buy him outright but I couldn't sanction that without seeing him in action for the first team."

With Dwight Yorke doubtful for the game with Southampton, Cyril Regis is likely to return to the Villa side.

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SATURDAY AUGUST 22 1992

# Blakey's call-up increases pressure on Russell



Blakey: curious choice

BY ALAN LEE  
 CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

SATED by the excesses of Thursday's decisive third victory over Pakistan, England have made a concession to the clamour for progressive thinking by adding the uncapped Richard Blakey to their party for the two remaining games in the Texaco Trophy.

Blakey was summoned from Bradford, where he had been expecting to play for Yorkshire against Surrey. He joined the England side at Lord's and it is expected that both he and Dominic Cork will make their senior international debuts there today, giving a welcome new focus to a series which is effectively over.

Cork will be a natural replacement for Gladstone

Small and his aptitude, as much as his acknowledged ability, will be scrutinised with a winter tour place in mind. Blakey, as a wicket-keeper-batsman, must presumably play today ahead of Alec Stewart, though how England anticipate him fitting into long-term strategy remains to be seen.

Blakey, 25, began keeping regularly for Yorkshire only in 1990, succeeding David Baird, and for two seasons the job appeared to be compromising his batting potential. He averaged 29 in 1990 and 21 last year and was in danger of joining Ashley Metcalfe in the lost generation of under-achieving Yorkshiresmen. This summer, however, he has plainly come to terms with his dual role and

ENGLAND (from): G A Gooch (capt), A J Stewart, A Smith, N H Farnes, D A Hockley, S J Botham, R J Blakey, C C Laker, D A Reeve, R K Wiffen, P A J DeFreitas, G C Smart, D G Cork.

PAKISTAN (from): Javed Miandad (capt), Asmer Sohail, Ramiz Raja, Saeed Anwar, Imran-ul-Haq, Asif Mulla, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Aqib Javed, Naheed Anjum, Izz Ahmed. Umpires: J Hampshire and K Palmer. TELEVISION: BBC1: 10.40-13.00.

13.45-14.05; 14.15-14.35; 14.45-16.40; live coverage. BBC2: 16.35-17.45; live coverage. BBC1: midnight highlights.

WEATHER: Cloudy with some sunshines. Showers towards evening.

RESULTS: May 20: Lord's: England won by 79 runs. May 22: The Oval: England won by 99 runs. August 22: Trent Bridge: England won by 198 runs. England lead best-of-five series 3-0.

MATCH TO COME: Monday: Old Trafford.

Tests have not given Fairbrother sufficient opportunity to shed his inhibitions. His method, however, supports the view that he is a one-day specialist. His runs are worked, with angled bat, into gaps behind square which do not exist in the five-day game.

Hick is different. He has technical flaws which the best bowlers have exposed but he has also allowed Test cricket to dictate to him, rather than dictating his own game as he has done throughout his career. Nobody can play the sort of shots with which he pulverised Pakistan's leading bowlers on Thursday's inexcusable of succeeding at Test level, and I hope he is given the chance against the less daunting Indian bowlers.

Russell and the campaign for classical wicketkeepers.

Russell is one of the six players who already have the security of a full tour contract for this winter, and it will be a great surprise if he is not selected for India. Blakey's promotion gives reason for doubt, though, and as the solitary change to the originally chosen 13, it is a curiosity.

The inclusion of Cork today would give still greater depth to the England batting, not that this may seem necessary following scores of 278, 302 and 363 in the games so far.

What the near 30,000 crowd at Lord's may be most keenly anticipating, indeed, is a further exhibition of dashing strokes, positive running and all that is good in limited-overs batsmanship from Graeme

Blakey, however, has a firm supporter in Keith Fletcher, who takes over as England team manager next month. Fletcher was greatly impressed by the Yorkshiresman on his two England A tours and this rise to the senior side will give further cause for alarm to Jack MARC ASHARD

Liverpool prepare for physical tussle with Arsenal

## United look for inspiration in Robson's absence

BY CLIVE WHITE

IT NEVER rains but it pours — particularly so, it seems, in Manchester. If ever there was a job for Captain Marvel — United's Bryan Robson — this was it. Bottom of the table after conceding five goals in two games and accused of unprofessionalism by Alex Ferguson, their manager, United are in dire need of Robson's inspirational qualities.

Yesterday, it was revealed, however, that the brittle former England captain will be out of the game for at least a further month because of the recurrence of a hamstring injury he aggravated in a pre-season match against Celtic at Parkhead on July 29.

The only cure is rest. If only the remedy for United's collective ailments was as simple. The embarrassing 3-0 reverse at Old Trafford against Everton on Wednesday was particularly perplexing for Ferguson in as much as it contained, according to the United manager, some of the best attacking play United have shown in recent times. Furthermore, they were immensely proud of their defen-

sive record last season, when the championship was theirs for the taking only to belly flop in the best Devon-Loch tradition. It took United 13 games last season to concede as many as five goals and in the first four games of the season their defence was never breached.

Ferguson was hoping to recall Robson during these troubled times, as much for his leadership qualities as for what he could contribute as a player. With Ince unavailable after damaging his hip on the opening day and Webb still to reconcile his differences with Ferguson, United's need for a midfield player has heightened still further. The finger of suspicion points in directions other than defence.

United's interest in Andy Townsend, the driving force of Chelsea and the Republic of Ireland, which was thought to have withered when the Stamford Bridge club gave United's offers of players in part exchange or £2 million cash the thumbs down, may yet have to be revived.

United will be looking to redeem themselves against

## England aided by BSkyB favour

THE FIRST signs that BSkyB is prepared to be flexible in its coverage of the Premier League emerged yesterday when Middlesbrough's match with Sheffield United on Monday, September 7, was moved because players from both clubs are likely to be wanted for international duty two days later.

The match at Ayresome Park has been returned to its original date on the previous Saturday and the likely replacement for Sky's Monday night live show is Oldham Athletic v Coventry City.

The move, which reveals an initiative to assist Graham Taylor, the England manager, means that Brian Deane, the Sheffield United forward, is clear for a possible England call-up against Spain in Santander on September 9. His clubmate, Glyn Hodges, of Wales, and Bernie Slaven, the Middlesbrough and Republic of Ireland forward may be needed for World Cup qualifiers.

Tottenham Hotspur have complained to the Football Association over comments a referee is reported to have made about Gordon Durie, their Scotland forward. Dermot Gallagher booked Durie following an incident involving Andy Pearce, of Coventry City, at White Hart Lane on Wednesday.

Gallagher was reported as saying that he had booked Durie for "ungentlemanly conduct" because he had "feigned a head-butt to get an opponent sent off". Gallagher was also said to have suggested that Tottenham were disappointed with their performance in a 2-0 defeat.

"We have made a complaint to the Premier League," Doug Livermore, the Tottenham coach, said yesterday. "We are not allowed to comment on referees but now we see a referee not only commenting on Pearce and Durie but also our performance."

time" payments to players who missed a shift down the mine to play rugby. The split took place in 1894, two years before the first Olympics.

The moral arguments were secondary: class exclusivity was primary. These days, Holy Amateur has been banished from the Games, the Olympics are professional, Dream Teams and all, and rugby league seems the logical next step. The hypocritical nonsense of the cult of the Holy Amateur has been seen for what it is almost all sports. The only major exception is an oval ball game that still operates on 1894 principles.

That includes rugby league: there is already a very real possibility for league as a demonstration sport. The idea is most expansively proposed by John Fahey, the New South Wales premier. "Sydney is the rugby league capital of the world," he said. His notion is to include a seven-a-side tournament. "It would be spectacular stuff," he said.

It is the historical and philosophical implications that make this so interesting. The notion of the Holy Amateur was largely defined by the split between rugby league and rugby union. The issue was "broken



Wrapped in concentration: Jeff Ratnai, of Israel, on his way to his first defeat in 11 games in the world bowls championships at Worthing. He was beaten 25-20 by Richard Corsie, of Scotland. Report page 27

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## New ball game for Olympics

RIGHT: Sydne league an Olympic sport? Sydney is awfully with Olympic enthusiasm and is revelling in the thought of the 2000 Olympics. Sydney is one of the favourites to host the Games and the Sydneysiders are already keen to show the world a thing or two.

That includes rugby league: there is already a very real possibility for league as a demonstration sport. The idea is most expansively proposed by John Fahey, the New South Wales premier. "Sydney is the rugby league capital of the world," he said. His notion is to include a seven-a-side tournament. "It would be spectacular stuff," he said.

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time" payments to players who missed a shift down the mine to play rugby. The split took place in 1894, two years before the first Olympics.

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## SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

□ It had to be. After the Dream Team, the Dream team. The success of the United States team of basketball millionaires could not be ignored: now they are talking about a dream team to contest the ice hockey at the next Winter Olympics, which take place in Lillehammer in 1994. America's National Hockey League needs to vote on this at the annual meeting next week.

### Offer of help

Halifax Town are down on their luck. "I received a letter last week from Readers Digest informing me that I had not been included in their lucky draw," wrote the manager, John McGrath, to potential sponsors. "I am going to have to listen to offers for all my players, including the club cat, Beany." A computer software firm offered Halifax enough cat food to last the season.

### Women's rights

Ron Edwards, an Australian MP, has suggested that nations that refuse to allow women to compete in sporting events should be banned from the 1996 Games in Atlanta. Edwards said the International Olympic Committee should tell countries that do not treat women equally in sports that they are not welcome at the Games. This would appear to rule out just about every nation on earth, but it is plainly aimed at the Islamic nations. Algeria fundamentalists attempted to stop Hassiba Boulmeria running at the Olympics: she went on to win the 1,500 metres.

### Peace and quiet

Don't mention the war. I have an exciting press release on my desk: "In the peaceful country of Slovenia on the picturesque shores of Lake Bled, Andrea Doyle, executive director of the Women's Professional Golfers' European Tour, has signed a three-year contract for the Slovenian Classic." The release quotes the prime minister, Dr Janez Drnovsek: "The purpose of the tournament is partly to raise much-needed funds for the Children's Embassy in Sarajevo and also to promote the fact that this part of the world is not involved in the war currently raging in the south and is once again establishing itself as a major tourist destination."



Britons in sea disaster

A British sailor in the Indian Ocean has been missing since his ship sank on Sunday. The crew of the cargo ship, the MV Atlantic Star, were rescued by a passing vessel.

Swap offer

Phil Rudden, 25, from Blackpool, has been offered a swap deal by the British government. He is currently held captive in Iraq.

Kabul delay

The UK's ambassador to Afghanistan has been delayed in Kabul due to political unrest.

Pay plea

The UK's ambassador to Pakistan has called for a pay increase for British embassy staff.

Trophy fear

Comptroller of the Royal Mint, Peter Lunn, has been warned by the Royal Mint's chief executive, Alan Cope, that he must not let the Royal Mint's reputation suffer.

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